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SERVING PALMER, MONSON, BRIMFIELD, HOLLAND & WALES

# The Journal Register

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**SPORTS**

## THREE RIVERS CHAMBER *holds annual dinner*



Three Rivers Chamber of Commerce President Roger Dugay thanks the crowd for coming to the dinner, and provides updates on what the organization has been up to.

By Jonah Snowden  
[jsnowden@turley.com](mailto:jsnowden@turley.com)

THREE RIVERS — Last Tuesday, Feb. 18, the Three Rivers Chamber of Commerce hosted its annual dinner at Amvets Post 74, where members and guests had a delicious meal provided by the Three Rivers Restaurant and learned about chamber accomplishments and current projects.

Chamber President Roger Dugay provided the guests with updates on what the chamber has provided for the community.

One of these announcements included a reflection about a now-scraped program entitled "Doctor Visits," through which the chamber provided money toward leases that allowed the landlords to commit to one-year leases for fledgling businesses. Although the program didn't work, he is planning to put together a committee to provide mini-grants. This way, tenants and

business owners could visit the chamber, submit a request and receive help.

Dugay also said the chamber has a new website, which they hope will give businesses more attention. He also said the chamber's bylaws have been changed allowing meetings to take place on services such as Skype to accommodate younger people or with young children who can't get to the meetings.

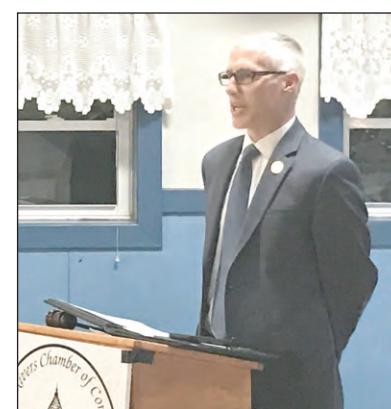
"I've been in a couple different organizations over the years, and what's happening is the volunteerism is dropping, and it's because parents are busy," said Dugay. "So the idea is look, join our chamber and we're going to work with you to help you with your families yet get you involved in the town."

Aside from Dugay, and Palmer Police Chief Christopher Burns, who said former police chief John J. Janulewicz is joining the Board of Directors, Town Manager Ryan McNutt took to the podium to

discuss the "N.I.C.E Task Force," which was officially instituted on Jul. 17, 2019.

This task force, whose name is an acronym for "Neighborhood Improvement Code Enforcement," meets once a month to discuss the top issues in the Palmer neighborhoods and work as a team to address them. The problems the task force usually discusses are properties identified as problematic because they have fire damage, are vacant, foreclosed or have significant building, sanitary, or health code violations or may be centers of criminal activity.

A few of the strategies the Task Force uses when combating these problems include enforcement inspections, working directly with owners to address issues, receivership and demolition. McNutt said if residents have any questions about the Task Force, they can visit him at Town Hall, 4417 Main St., or call him at 413-283-2645.



Town Manager Ryan McNutt talks about the N.I.C.E. Task Force, and how growing up in Fitchburg and his time in the military inspired him to institute this group.

Anyone interested in learning more about the chamber or who is interested in joining can visit [threeriversmachamber.com](http://threeriversmachamber.com).

**ANIMALS**

## Annual "Spay"ghetti supper almost here

Proceeds to help with feline adoptions

By Jonah Snowden  
[jsnowden@turley.com](mailto:jsnowden@turley.com)

BRIMFIELD — The nonprofit, volunteer-driven group "Here Today Adopted Tomorrow," Animal Shelter, known for their efforts in reducing the number of animals in the community through prevention and adoption services, will be celebrating World Spay Day, an international day promoting the sterilization of pets, community cats and street dogs through their upcoming "Spay"ghetti Supper, scheduled for March 1.



Turley Publications courtesy photo  
The Here Today Adopted Tomorrow cat adoption shelter will be hosting a "Spay"ghetti Supper on March 1 at the First Congregational Church of Brimfield.

SPAY | page 3

**COMMUNITY**

## Gas station returns \$500 to lottery winner

By Elise Linscott  
[elinscott@turley.com](mailto:elinscott@turley.com)

21, said in an interview this week.

When Flegert got the money and heard what happened from Timmy, she immediately called and thanked Vasif.

"She said she was surprised I didn't take it for myself," Vasif said. "I said, well, I don't need it... and if you find something, you give it back, you know?"

Flegert said she's grateful that Vasif decided to do the right thing.

"He could've kept that, but he gave that to my son to bring home to me," Flegert said. "There are not very many honest people like that."

Vasif said he's never found himself in that situation before. Of the hundred or so customers he sees in a day, many are regulars, stopping in daily or multiple times a day for lottery tickets, cigarettes and gas. The store also sells snacks and groceries.

Vasif's father has owned Shah Food and Fuel for 26 years. Vasif grew up in Canada and moved to Longmeadow, where he lives now with his grandparents, during his sophomore year of high school.

**EDUCATION**

## Brimfield girls excited to be firefighter

By Eileen Kennedy  
Staff writer

WARE — Brimfield resident Alana Inslee, who lived in Ware for a number of years, was back last week to become an honorary firefighter at the Ware Fire Station, on the eve of an important surgery.

Inslee, who was born with a number of developmental delays and physical issues, was due to have major surgery to reposition critical shunts last Wednesday, and as it was uncertain how the surgery would go, she got her longtime wish fulfilled.

She made it through and is doing well, according to Fire Chief Chris Gagnon, and he, Deputy Chief James Martinez and other firefighters were only to happy to welcome her to their staff.

**FIREFIGHTER** | page 16



Turley Publications staff photos by Eileen Kennedy  
Deputy Chief James Martinez presents honorary firefighter Alana Inslee, a Brimfield resident, with a variety of items to mark the occasion including a certificate, a T-shirt and a water bottle. Alana has developmental delays and on the eve of a major surgery, firefighters granted her life goal of becoming a firefighter.

**EDUCATION**

## Zoo on the Go visits the library



Turley Publications staff photos by Jonah Snowden  
Zoo Educator Savannah Marcotte with a cockatoo named Ella during last week's visit to the Palmer Public Library. More photos on page 8.

# Legion Field bleachers to be done by fall

By Shelby Macri  
smacri@turley.com

PALMER – The new bleachers for Legion Field were discussed at a recent Select Board meeting on Feb. 10, it's been a hot topic recently and while prices were previously projected to be around \$300,000 for the project, the official amount will be \$350,000 which has been voted to come from the stabilization account.

At an earlier meeting Town Manager Ryan McNutt explained if the money were taken from the stabilization account, then an equal amount could be restored to the account later that year. As far as bidding is concerned, McNutt said that the town is part of a consortium that uses vendors who have been pre-approved and is not subject to the regular municipal bidding process. While they go about the construction differently, the town has received competitive quotes.

While there is a large portion coming from the stabilization account, a portion of the project is covered by a grant. The grant will help increase access for the disabled and the rest of the funds will be covered by the town and were budgeted long ago. McNutt assured councilors there will not be an impact on the tax rate for the bleacher project.

New bleachers will be constructed as the original ones were constructed

in 1936, and were built with the intention to last at least 30 years. Though the bleachers have been used for 83 years, they have become unsafe and the new ones will be constructed from steel and aluminum. The bleachers will have a seating capacity of 500, and are expected to last at least 20 years. Most of the design choices have been made and most bleacher systems are pre-designed to standard configurations.

There will be a press box, and access to the press box will be the last design feature to be worked out based on cost and functionality. The option to have the bleachers 10 feet from the field's hills or built into the hills is still being worked out. The town would like to avoid a chair lift if possible. While there's no specific deadline, McNutt's goal is to have the bleacher project finished in time for the fall football season.

According to the vendor, there shouldn't be any major interruptions or disruptions to other activities, McNutt said. As the town gets closer to the construction and installation of the bleachers, there will be options to review everything.

"I expect Murphy from 'Murphy's law' to play a role in every one of my projects, so when someone says there's no impact I plan for impacts," McNutt said.

## Public forum on crumbling foundations

MONSON – State Rep. Brian Ashe, D-Longmeadow, and state Sen. Anne Gobi, D-Spencer, will be holding a public forum on Saturday, March 14, from 10 a.m. to noon, at the Granite Valley Middle School auditorium, at 21 Thompson St., to update residents throughout Western Mass. on the status of crumbling concrete foundations by identifying the affected locations and overall estimated cost to fully restore the damaged foundations. The report also recommends what steps the state should take to address the overall issue and what action can be taken to best assist affected homeowners.

They will also discuss the state reimbursement program as well as present the final report filed by the Crumbling Concrete Foun-

dations Study Commission. The commission was tasked with examining the financial and economic impacts of crumbling concrete foundations by identifying the affected locations and overall estimated cost to fully restore the damaged foundations. The report also recommends what steps the state should take to address the overall issue and what action can be taken to best assist affected homeowners.

After a brief presentation, there will be a question and answer period.

## Motor vehicles excise tax bills due March 19

MONSON – Motor vehicle excise tax bills have been sent from the office of the Monson Town Collector. Online payments, using debit or credit cards can be made by going to the town of Monson's website at [www.monson-ma.gov](http://www.monson-ma.gov). Payments can also be made by mail using the addressed return envelope accompany each bill. Public hours for the Monson Town Collector's office at 110 Main St., are Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. The telephone number of the office is 413-267-4100, ext. 6.



Hint: This week's photo was taken in Monson and it acts as an entrance to a specific location.



Last week's photo: Last week's answer was symbols that are part of Monson High School's insignia.

## Artists invited to enter Juried Spring Art Exhibit

\$4,300 in prizes to be awarded

MONSON – The Monson Arts Council 27th annual Juried Spring Art Exhibit and Sale is now accepting artist's entries.

The show, held in nine rooms in the House of Art on Main Street in Monson, will be open weekends April 4 to April 19. Will be closed on April 12. It will also be open on Thursday evenings, April 9 and April 16, from 5 to 8 p.m., in conjunction with special art show evenings at Main Street Tavern, Monson.

The Monson Arts Council show offers \$4,300 in prizes to artists in four major categories. A \$1,000 Best of Show tops the list of

prizes, but the Council also offers four \$500 first prizes and four \$100 second prizes in painting, photography, multi-dimensional art (including sculpture, fiber art and ceramics) and graphic arts (drawing and printmaking). Also, \$800 is given in additional prizes and a People's Choice Award is selected by visitors to the show opening.

Deadline for online entry of work to be hand delivered to the House of Art is March 4. Artists will deliver actual work on March 7. Cost to enter is \$25/one piece, \$35/two pieces and \$45 three pieces. There is an additional \$15 fee for those who drop off work without prior entry form.

Artists who wish to deliver their work as digital images, may do so by March 11 at 8 p.m. Above

fees apply for either hand delivery or digital entry. Specifications for digital image size may be found online.

Sales shop open to all entrants. The Monson Arts Council offers a sales shop at every spring show. New this year – all entrants, juried into show or not, are eligible to offer work for sales in this shop. Guidelines are on the website.

Jurors for this show are Cynthia Consentino who teaches art at University of Massachusetts, Amherst College and Holyoke Community College. Holly S. Murray, ceramics educator and director of William Blizard Gallery at Springfield College and Eric Gehring, of Boston Camera Club and Eliot School of Fine and Applied Arts in Boston. Artists may read the juror

biographies and full explanation of the jury process online.

The Major sponsor for prizes is Monson Savings Bank. Moulton Insurance Agency underwrites a special prize for Outstanding Monson Artist in show. Other sponsors include Media Sponsor, Turley Publications, J. Stolar Insurance Agency, Roberts & Ludlow Printing, Tree House Brewing, Giclee Printing & Framing of New England and Letterpress Arts of West Springfield. Sponsor, Dana's Main Street Tavern, will be holding two Thursday night fundraisers to support the show.

All guidelines, an application, and information about prizes and jurors may be found at [www.MonsonArtsCouncil.org](http://www.MonsonArtsCouncil.org).

## Monson's CPA application deadline is Feb. 28

MONSON – Monson has had the benefit of the Community Preservation Act for 12 years. It has collected over \$1.9 million, which has been matched by the state at an average rate of 82 percent, making the total Monson has received from the commonwealth \$1.40 million. Our grand total is \$3.34 million for projects in Monson.

This money can only be used for historic restoration or preservation, open space preservation, creation or restoration of outdoor recreation project and low to moderate-income housing supports. The money does not go into the general fund at any time; it is reserved for CPA appropriate projects only.

The Committee is currently accepting applications for the Annual Town Meeting in the spring. The deadline for submitting applications is Feb. 28. The application is available online at the town website at <http://www.monson-ma.gov> under Boards and Committees. If someone has a project relating to historical preservation, open space, recreation or community housing, the committee encourages residents to submit an application for funding. Anyone with questions, please feel free to attend a CPC meeting; check the town website for monthly meeting times.

Information on the kinds of projects that are appropriate for CPA funds is also available on the town website. Please submit seven copies of the application to the Monson CPC at 110 Main Street, Monson, MA 01057. The committee also appreciates receiving an electronic copy at [monsoncommunitypreservation@gmail.com](mailto:monsoncommunitypreservation@gmail.com).

To pre-fill and print an application, go to Boards and Committees, then click on Community Preservation. Once on the CPA page, users will see the grant application is one of the options on the left-hand side.

## Basic Firearms Safety Course available for locals

BELCHERTOWN - State Certified Instructor, Ofc. Edward Oey will be offering a Basic Firearms Safety Course on Saturday, March 7. Class will be held at the Swift River Sportsman Club, located at 350 Cold Spring Rd. (AKA: Moore Rd) in Belchertown starting at 9 a.m. and running until 4 p.m. As required by State Law, the course is an 8-hour classroom session.

As required by the State of Massachusetts, the course covers: safe use and handling of firearms; storage, methods of securing/childproofing firearms; knowledge of operation pistols & revolvers; nomenclature, pistols/ revolvers/ rifles/ shotguns; ammunition; basic shooting skills; shooting excercises; and laws pertaining to the possession, transportation and storage of firearms.

Students are required to pass a written proficiency exam. Students can also handle a variety of firearms.

This is a license to carry firearms, Mas-

sachusetts State Police Approved, NRA safety course required for new LTC/FID. A Massachusetts State Police Certificate will be awarded at the completion of the course. Concealed Carry Course and IDPA/Action Course both available on request.

The cost for the basic safety course is \$80. Spaces reserved on a first paid, first registered basis. If for any reason you are unable to attend, your money may be refunded if your spot can be filled or you will be enrolled into the next class. Reserve your space early classes fill up quickly.

For questions or to receive a registration form please email Ofc. Edward Oey at [robocop50@aol.com](mailto:robocop50@aol.com). Registration forms are also available at R&R Sports Shop on Federal St. and at the Belchertown Police Station.

Ofc. Oey is a certified NRA / M.P.T.C. / S&W / State Firearms / LEOSA Instructor/Armorer/ Officer Down / Rescue / Taser / IALEFI Master Firearms Instructor.

**journalregister.turley.com**

## HELP WANTED

The Ware Cemetery Commission is seeking a Part Time Worker, 19 hours per week, between approximately April 1, 2020 and December 1, 2020 to help maintain Aspen Grove Cemetery and other cemeteries maintained by Town of Ware.

The person chosen must be capable of using power equipment, some lifting and general groundskeeping. The person must be physically fit as the job requires a lot of time spent walking in the cemeteries. Salary is \$12.75 per hour.

Applications should be mailed by March 23, 2020.

C/O Ware Cemetery Commission  
Town Hall, 126 Main Street, Ware, MA 01082

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## 29TH ANNUAL LENTEN LUNCHES Second Congregational Church

1080 Pleasant Street, Palmer, MA 01069

Served Fridays, February 28 - April 3, 2020 (11:30-1:00)

### ~ LUNCH MENU ~

**Homemade Soups \$3.00:** New England Clam Chowder available every week and Soup du Jour: Double Tomato - February 28th, Onion - March 6th, Corn Chowder - March 13, Pasta E. Fagioli - March 20, Vegetable - March 27, Double Tomato & Rice - April 3

**Lobster Salad Roll:** (100% Real Lobster Meat)

\$13.00 Choice of Bread with Chips & Pickles

**Sandwiches:** Tuna Salad, Egg Salad, Cream Cheese & Olive \$3.50 each.

All served on your choice of bread with chips and pickles

**Homemade Desserts:** Assorted pies & cakes \$2.50

**Beverage:** Coffee, Tea, Soda, Water \$1.00

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## Where is it!



Hint: This week's photo was taken in Monson and it acts as an entrance to a specific location.

Each week on Page 2 and on [www.facebook.com/TheJournalRegister](http://www.facebook.com/TheJournalRegister), *The Journal Register* will feature a photo of a local building, item, sign, place or landmark and ask readers to pick their brains to figure out where it is or even what it is. Check here each week to test your knowledge of the area where we live and work. The photo might be from any of the towns in the Journal's coverage area – Palmer, Monson, Holland, Brimfield and Wales – but we'll always tell you the town. And maybe we'll throw in a hint, too.

The answer to this week's "Where is it?" will run in next week's edition, along with a new trivia photo for you to consider.

## DEADLINE

*The Journal Register* has changed its firm deadline for public submissions to Mondays. To get your submission in for that week's edition, email Editor at [bcoulter@turley.com](mailto:bcoulter@turley.com) or call the office at 413-283-8393 by noon on Mondays.

We appreciate the cooperation of our readers.

## Monson kindergarten registration will be in May

MONSON – Monson Public Schools will hold kindergarten registration and screening from May 4 through May 8. In order to enter kindergarten in the Monson Public Schools, a child must attain the age of 5 by Aug. 31, prior to the start of school in September.

Registration will be completed with the following items: Physical examination within one year prior to the start of school; complete immunization history signed by a doctor; certified birth certificate from city or town of birth and proof of lead screening. Please call the Early Childhood Center for registration/screening appointment. Any questions, please call the school at 413-267-4160.

## Blood drives at Ware High School

WARE – The Ware High School Domestic Violence Task Force will be holding blood drives on Monday, March 9, and Tuesday, March 10, from 7:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Baystate Health will park their Bloodmobile in our parking lot on both days. Anyone interested in donating may send Dan Orszulak ([dorszulak@ware.k12.ma.us](mailto:dorszulak@ware.k12.ma.us)) or Jesse Trzpit ([jtrzpit@ware.k12.ma.us](mailto:jtrzpit@ware.k12.ma.us)) emails with a convenient time. The demand for blood has increased since the American Red Cross stopped holding blood drives in Western Massachusetts. All donors will receive a \$5 Dunkin' Gift Card.

## Tech Class of '70 to hold reunion

SPRINGFIELD – The Springfield Technical High School Class of 1970 will hold their 50th Reunion Saturday, April 25 from 5:30 to 11:30 p.m. at Springfield Country Club, 1375 Elm St., West Springfield. Tickets are \$60 per person and must be purchased by April 10.

For more information, call Vinnie Juliano at 508-633-5000 or email [vulianosr@aol.com](mailto:vulianosr@aol.com).

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## The Journal Register OBITUARY POLICY

Turley Publications offers two types of obituaries.

One is a free, brief **Death Notice** listing the name of deceased, date of death and funeral date and place.

The other is a **Paid Obituary**, costing \$100, which allows families to publish extended death notice information of their own choice and may include a photograph. **Death Notices & Paid Obituaries** should be submitted through a funeral home to: [obits@turley.com](mailto:obits@turley.com).

*Exceptions will be made only when the family provides a death certificate and must be pre-paid.*

## Genealogy and family history fundraiser

LUDLOW – A “Genealogy and Family History Fundraiser” is being held at First Church in Ludlow, 859 Center St. All proceeds will be made payable to the First Church in Ludlow to help fund the many projects necessary to keep the building in good shape including the most recent repairs necessary to their iconic steeple.

Dave Robison, professional genealogist of Old Bones Genealogy of New England, will conduct four sessions of learning (or relearning) how to research a family. Hints, tips, tricks, all designed to get people started, to help them break through obstacles or inspire them to just “get going” again. The plan is to hold the classes on four consecutive Tuesday evenings from March 31 to April 21, from 6:30 to 8 p.m.

So much has changed in the past year alone that keeping up to date on both online and offline collections is critical. The sessions are designed for beginner to intermediate level researchers. They will even touch on DNA to discuss which test should be used and why, what it can and what it can’t do and what to do after receiving the results. The importance of social media will be covered. Used properly, it can be very surprising what it can do for researchers.

The cost is only \$40 for the four sessions which will be comprised of an hour to an hour and a half of instruction with time allowed for comments as well as question and answer segments. All students need is a pen and paper to take notes as there will be handouts to take home.

Please sign up by contacting Dave Robison at [dave@oldbones.info](mailto:dave@oldbones.info). Send an email indicating intentions to attend and the number of participants. Knowing the number of attendees is very important so Fellowship Hall can be set up comfortably for all.

### SPAY | from page 1

Since opening its doors in 2012 with an-kill, cageless adoption center for adult cats and kittens, HTAT has pursued endless opportunities to decrease the number of animals entering the shelter system, keeping the cats less stressed and healthy and happy until they are adopted. They also provide programs to help special needs cats that are shy and fearful and senior cats get adopted as well. Also, by keeping the adoption center cageless, anyone looking to adopt a cat can come visit with them to get a sense of which one would fit in right at home. The group has helped over 2,200 cats.

This upcoming dinner, which is considered one of HTAT’s biggest fundraisers, is an opportunity for animal lovers of Brimfield and surrounding communities to come together, have a night of food, fun and raffles, and help the group raise money so it can continue its efforts in helping cats. “It’s usually our most popular fundraiser, and it’s fun to see the people come out and show their support,” said HTAT Executive Director and President Rachael Max.

Also, to further celebrate World Spay Day, Max said she would like to remind residents of Brimfield, Holland, Palmer, Monson, Southbridge, Sturbridge, Wales, Ware or Warren that HTAT is offering to “fix” owned cats for \$20. Also un-owned “community” or “feral” cats can be fixed for free. “They can call anytime,” said Max.

Members of HTAT, such as Cat Care and Place Coordinator Mika Schneider, said she considers the dinner a “fun way to get together.” She is looking forward to the dinner and encourages people to come out and show their support. “We would love to see all of the community come together and support the cats and kittens,” said Schneider.

The supper will take place at the First Congregational Church of Brimfield, located on 20 Main St. The first seating is from 4:30 p.m. to 6 p.m. The second seating is from 6:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. For tickets, to learn more about the dinner, HTAT or to adopt a cat, call 413-324-8224, email [smudge@heretodaysanctuary.org](mailto:smudge@heretodaysanctuary.org), or visit [heretodaysanctuary.org](http://heretodaysanctuary.org). The Animal Sanctuary is located at 180 Sturbridge Road.

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# Quabbin enters the digital age

By Wyatt Aloisio  
[waloisio@turley.com](mailto:waloisio@turley.com)

BELCHERTOWN – It’s no small secret that the tale of the Quabbin Reservoir and the lost towns of Dana, Greenwich, Prescott and Enfield that once inhabited the lands beneath the water’s surface draw droves of curious visitors to its shores year after year.

While the early spring warm spell over the weekend drew many to the outdoors around the water resource, inside the Quabbin Visitor Center a packed room of history buffs enjoyed a chance to view a collection of photos detailing life in the Swift River Valley prior to 1938 and during construction of the reservoir.

The “Quabbin Enters the Digital Age” program, a free-to-the-public event hosted on Sunday, Feb. 23, continued the visitor center’s trend of successes seen as part of this year’s round of Winter Program Series lectures.

These photos are a fascinating window into the world of the Swift River Valley as it existed prior to 1938. Thousands of photos and other documents have been scanned and are now available to the public to view through the Digital Commonwealth project, available online at [digitalcommonwealth.org](http://digitalcommonwealth.org) (Type “Quabbin” into the search bar and results can be adjusted by topic from there).

This past weekend’s showing drew out a particularly high number of visitors looking for a chance to hear more about the DCR’s efforts to digitize historic photos of the Quabbin. Leading the discussion with a slide show presentation of just a few of the photos was DCR Ar-

chivist Sean Fisher along with Massachusetts Water Resources Authority Project Intern Katy Purington, who worked on the metadata that is used in part of the photo collection.

As part of the Quabbin Reservoir Construction Project, thousands of photographs were taken of the properties purchased and removed by the Metropolitan District Water Supply Commission to build the reservoir. This included images from the towns of Dana, Prescott, Enfield and Greenwich, or the four lost towns which were disincorporated leading up to the construction of the reservoir.

Photos showcased by Fisher and Purington provided a look at early century life within the four towns, focusing primarily on buildings, cemeteries and other structures that required documentation prior to the flooding of the valley.

These photos are a fascinating window into the world of the Swift River Valley as it existed prior to 1938. Thousands of photos and other documents have been scanned and are now available to the public to view through the Digital Commonwealth project, available online at [digitalcommonwealth.org](http://digitalcommonwealth.org) (Type “Quabbin” into the search bar and results can be adjusted by topic from there).

The trend of photographic events is set to continue next weekend as the Winter Series begins its first program of March.

Nature photographer Dale Monette is the featured speaker



DCR Archivist Sean Fisher and Massachusetts Water Resources Authority Project Intern Katy Purington lead guests on a digital tour, looking back at the history of the Quabbin Reservoir and the lost towns through a collection of digitized photos.

at the Visitor Center Winter Program Series on Sunday, March 1 entitled “Voyagers, Visitors and Home,” which is also the name of Monette’s second recently published book. This book focuses on birds that visit New England just for a stopover during migration, birds that spend months here or birds and mammals that live here and call New England home.

Since his retirement from the Quabbin Visitor Center five years ago, Monette has spent countless hours photographing the region’s wildlife and trav-

eling innumerable miles in pursuit of his hobby. His book is a selection of some of the best and most memorable images he has collected.

A special section on the successful American bald eagle introduction as a nesting species to Massachusetts, which took place at The Quabbin Reservoir during the 1980s by MassWildlife is included in the publication.

This program is free for the public to attend and begins at 2 p.m. It is suitable for all ages.

The Quabbin Visitor Cen-

ter is located in the DCR Quabbin Administration Building at the west end of Winsor Dam in Belchertown. Access to the Center is through the Main (West) Quabbin Park entrance on Route 9, three miles east of the Route 9/Route 202 intersection. Seating and attendance are limited and on a first come-first serve basis.

For further information regarding the remaining programs in the Winter Series, please contact the Center at 413-323-7221

## Norcross Wildlife Sanctuary 2020 winter lecture series

WALES – Winter lectures at the Norcross Wildlife Sanctuary are offered on Saturdays at 1:30pm. Please RSVP by calling 413-267-9654. The lectures are free; however, attendees are asked that to bring a canned good or non-perishable food item to support the local food pantry. In case of inclement weather please call ahead, check our Facebook page or visit [www.norcrosswildlife.org](http://www.norcrosswildlife.org).

### Saturday Feb. 8: Minerals, rock and archaeology

Alan Smith, a project archaeologist and environmental specialist, will discuss his experiences involving several minerals and rock types that have influenced the anthropological and archaeological record. Follow the story of the formation of supercontinents and Massachusetts a billion years ago, the creation of its minerals and bedrock millions of years ago, the glaciation of this land thousands of years ago, ending with the establishment of flora and fauna and the peopling of this landscape where you live. See some exotic minerals caused by orogenic events that were used in the peopling of the land and were discovered by archaeologists.

### Saturday, March 7 Design-less gardening: a naturalistic approach

Disregard traditional design rules and adopt a new approach to garden design. Look to nature for inspiration. What clues can be taken from the landscape to help a site to thrive? Learn to evaluate sunlight, moisture, soil and other factors to encourage a successful garden that does not require many inputs in the way of watering, fertilizing and extra coddling. Dan Jaffe, Norcross horticulturist

and propagator, will show attendees how to create a low maintenance garden that actively supports the environment and provides beauty for all – people and pollinators alike.

### Saturday, March 14 You, me and climate change

Climate Change: It’s what’s for dinner. Not just tonight but every night for the foreseeable future. Since we know what’s being served up we may as well come up with a creative menu to deal with or mitigate the changes to come. Excess CO2 is not the problem; it’s a symptom as are the extreme weather patterns. Fossil fuel is only a fraction of the excess carbon in the atmosphere. Trevor Smith, lead designer at Land Escapes Design, will go past the scary numbers and the heartbreaking photographs of emaciated polar bears floating alone on a piece of ice and break out individuals can do. He makes it clear that the power to slow or stop climate change doesn’t rest solely in the hands of government and will leave everyone inspired and empowered to take action.

### Saturday, March 21 Bare trees and naked shrubs

No leaves? No problem! Boot Boutwell, a freelance itinerant naturalist and educator, will show attendees how to use a combination of branching patterns, bud and bark characteristics, habitat, persistent fruits, galls and marcescent leaves to help identify woody plants in winter. Attendees will use both bud and twig samples to study the subjects. While this is an indoor presentation, there will be the option to go for a walk afterward.

## “Crude” to be screened at UU Church

MONSON – The next social justice film, titled “Crude” will be shown on Feb. 29, at 7 p.m., at the Unitarian Universalist Church, at 177 Main St. The film is free and will be followed by refreshments and discussion.

It is about Chevron Oil Company in Ecuador, how Chevron made money while the people suffered with polluted water and cancer. Watch this film and see if giving Chevron a pass on paying income tax and even a subsidy as a gift from the taxpayers is something the United States should have done.

For more info call Malita at 413-596-9075.

## Wing Memorial Hospital auxiliary offers seven scholarships

PALMER – The Wing Memorial Hospital Auxiliary is offering a one-year scholarship of \$1,000 to students planning to enter the healthcare field. One eligible student from each of the following schools will be chosen: Belchertown High School, Ludlow High School, Minnechaug Regional High School, Monson High School, Palmer High School, Pathfinder Regional High School and Ware High School. Applications are available at the guidance department of each school and at the Wing Memorial Hospital Gift Shop and must be postmarked or emailed by March 31.

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# Viewpoints

## The hunting ethos in modern times

By Mohawk Johnny  
Guest columnist

Since enough has been written on this topic, by far better writers than me, I'm tempted to take pity on a dead horse and just leave it alone. But the subject is near to my heart, and I'm willing to fight and die on this hill if I must.

The essence of this topic can be distilled down to the question, "why should we hunt?" Better still, why shouldn't we hunt? I'll give you the unabashed perspective of a hunter—one man who has studied and contemplated the ethical, moral, philosophical, scientific, cultural, and even the legal aspects, of hunting, killing, and ultimately, life and death.

I've considered the views of those who are opposed to hunting and have observed that those views tend to be rooted in emotion rather than facts, reason or logic, and indicate no real grasp of how the natural world works or our place in it. It's a skinny ledge of moral high ground they cling to, especially if they eat meat, but more on that, later. I'll make my case, and I invite anyone who takes umbrage with my position to change my mind.

Our species, *Homo sapiens*, appeared between 300,000 and 500,000 years ago. We spent the overwhelming majority of that time as hunter/gatherers and have spent the last 200 years running from that fact. Why is that? The truth is, having devised safer, more convenient and more efficient ways to feed and clothe ourselves, the practical need to hunt has been, for the most part, supplanted by the marketplace.

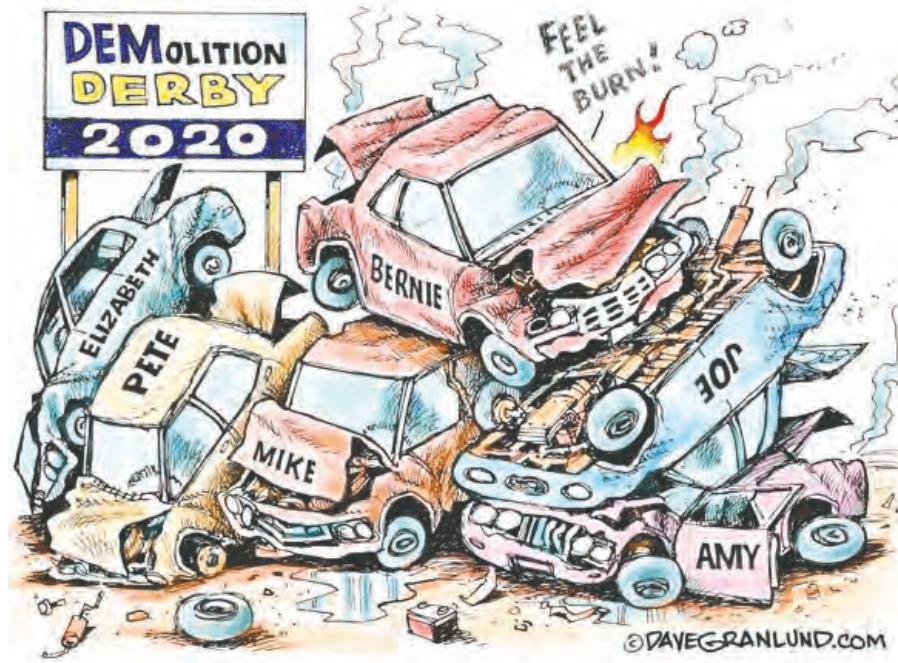
As we've drifted away from our hunting roots and through our agrarian and industrial phases, and, lastly, into our current age of technology and "enlightenment," we've lost touch with our atavistic past, and we've placed ourselves above and apart from nature. We buy our meat, neatly wrapped in plastic and are somehow morally insulated from the death we deal by proxy. This disconnect is further complicated by those who are compelled by pure emotion to project and impose their own fear and loathing of pain and death onto animals. Certainly, no reasonable person wants to subject animals to unnecessary cruelty, but no one can make a rational and informed argument that sport or subsistence hunting is anything as "cruel" as the way nature takes care of business—it's a jungle out there...

Hunting and predation have arguably been the most important drivers of animal evolution since those first microbes began chasing, killing and eating each other in the primordial muck. This fact is essential to my thesis because I see every aspect of nature as equally beautiful and important. Hunting, killing and death are as essential to nature as courtship, breeding, and birth—not better or worse, not good or evil—this is simply the way the natural world works. Even vegans can't dispute the fact that we are a product of nature and that hunting is part of our nature. Personally, I prefer to engage in nature in the most intimate way possible. I want to feel the earth beneath my feet, learn what the forest has to teach me, and assume responsibility for taking the life that sustains my own.

How sad is it when the nearest thing to nature many people ever experience is a trip to Yellowstone or a walk in the park? Many have never even grown a vegetable garden. And truly, what could possibly be more natural than participating in the very act that has led us to the top of the food chain?

Henry David Thoreau may have said it best when he lamented, "We cannot but pity the boy who has never fired a gun; he is no more humane, while his education has been sadly neglected."

Johnny Mohawk is longtime hunter in the Ware area.



## Get a head start on perennial planting this week

This week I will sow my first seeds of the growing season. No, it is not time to plant your tomatoes, or even your peppers. It is the perfect time, however, to sow the seeds of your favorite perennial flowers. And if you must plant a vegetable or two, onions and leeks both welcome a head start indoors. It's best to look up the germination requirements of the perennials you would like to start. The recommendations here are for those considered "easy," without the need of any special pre-treatments.

For seasoned seed-starters, the following will be a bit of a refresher. Those that are "green" to the indoor seed-starting scene, take note: following these guidelines will nearly guarantee successful seedlings. It's true...no more lanky seedlings, or seedlings that fall flat nearly as soon as they pop through the soil.

Remember the seed starting mix I spoke of awhile back? If not, a blend of finely milled peat moss or coir with some tiny chunks of vermiculite to hold water is my "soil" of choice for starting seeds indoors. It is essentially sterile, free of pathogens and weed seeds. A day before you plan to sow your seeds, dump some of the soil into a clean bucket and add water. Mix thoroughly with a gloved hand and let it sit until you are ready to use it. This extra step will eliminate any dry pockets that could wick water away from your seeds.

Once you are ready to sow, gather clean, sterilized containers. Used salad containers, top and all, work great, as do those that mushrooms come in; just be sure to make drainage holes in the bottom. Using a nail to make a small hole helps. Fill your container with moistened seed starting mix and tap it on a hard surface to settle the soil. Add more and repeat, so that the mix is about a half-inch from the top of the container. Firm the soil with a clean hand or pot bottom. Take a pot label and make shallow rows in the soil about two inches apart from one another.

As a general rule, seed that can be handled with your fingers can be inserted into the furrow without touching one another then covered slightly. Those that are tiny should be sown on the soil sur-

face. Here is a trick to space small seeds: Fold an index card and drop some seed into the fold. Swish it back and forth to spread them out evenly. While holding the index card over the indent, gently tap it. Seeds will pop out nicely spaced from one another. When all your seeds are sown, label the containers and put them in a tray. Top with a clear plastic humidity dome or tented bag as this will help prevent the soil from drying out. Salad containers that come with a top make it easy. Folks often wonder why this step is necessary. Understanding the process of germination helps. Seeds must be kept moist so that the seed coat will soften and crack. Then the root and shoot will emerge.

Now, it is time to place your tray on heating cables designed for seed starting. Seeds will sprout faster and more consistently if you use them. They aren't exactly inexpensive, but will last for decades if used for only a few weeks each season. For those of you who will start a flat or two of plants, save yourself the expense and find a spot in your house that stays in the 70-degree range. I have set plants on a shelf above the radiator, on top of the freezer, and even close to the woodstove. All will work.

Once seeds have germinated it is time to take the seedlings off the bottom heat and provide them with direct light for 14 hours a day. The easiest way to achieve this is to purchase a shop light outfitted with two fluorescent bulbs. If you position the plants just inches away from the lights you will produce the stockiest seedlings possible. I have my lights on a chain suspended from the ceiling where I can raise and lower them to accommodate growing plants.

Good luck with your seed starting endeavors this upcoming week.

*Roberta McQuaid graduated from the Stockbridge School of Agriculture at the University of Massachusetts. For the last 28 years, she has held the position of staff horticulturalist at Old Sturbridge Village. She enjoys growing food as well as flowers. Have a question for her? Email it to [ekennedy@turley.com](mailto:ekennedy@turley.com) with "Gardening Question" in the subject line.*

SS benefits) exceeds certain levels, your Medicare premium will be subject to the Income Related Medicare Adjustment Amount rule, which will add a supplemental amount to your base Medicare Part B premium. If your combined income, including that sold asset, for the 2020 tax year is between \$326,000 and \$750,000 then your Medicare premium for 2022 will be at least \$462.70. I say "at least" because the Medicare Part B premium can increase each year.

The IRMAA premium increases on a sliding scale starting at \$174,001 of combined income for a married couple filing jointly (\$87,001 for an individual). If you liquidate that large asset this year, it will be reported on your 2020 income tax return, which will be filed in 2021. That will mean that your Medicare premium for 2022 will be affected by IRMAA, and so will your wife's if she has enrolled in Medicare at age 65 in 2021, which she need not do if she

## Looking before we leap

"Look before you leap" are words of wisdom. This proverbial expression cautions us to carefully consider the consequence of our actions and choices. It advises us to really think about what you want to do before you do it.

This year of 2020 is a known as a "Leap Year." Usually every 365 days equals one year, but in our common calendar year, every four years has one extra day in February. Adding an extra day keeps planet earth in sync with the astronomical or seasonal year. This year, Saturday, Feb. 29, 2020, is that extra day.

But, before we leap into those additional 24 hours, perhaps we can consider interesting facts?

Do you know that those who are born on Leap Year Day may be called "leaplings," and that their actual birth date happens only every four years? However, family and friends can celebrate what day on either Feb. 28 or March 1. Regarding births on Leap Year Day, statistics appear to show the news that a baby has about a one in a 1,461 chance to be born on a Leap Year day.

"What about weddings on Leap Year Day?" you may ask. For those who were married on that date, they will officially celebrate fewer wedding anniversaries. However, I recently learned that one of the main reasons for choosing that specific date was, "Because it was easier to remember."

Reportedly there are Leap Year adages to see before we leap into those extra 24 hours:

"Happy Leap Year Day. Why not use these extra 24 hours to their fullest? Do something kind and make a difference in someone else's day?"

"Take a leap. This is that free day you've been waiting for. It's an extra 24 hours you didn't have last year."

A leap is a word signifying action. A jump; a bound over a hurdle. Merriam-Webster also states: "It can also resemble a change made in an area of ultimate concern." Or, it may be defined as "A sudden passage or transition."

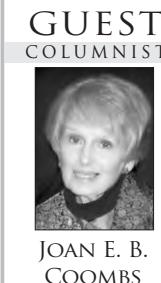
Within any one of the above definitions, could the days before the upcoming 24-hour Leap Year day be a time of thoughtful preparation? Can the days following be times of leaps and bounds towards your personal goals?

As we consider goals, perhaps the famous words that astronaut Neil Armstrong said when walking on the moon on July 20, 1969, "This is one small step for a man. One giant leap for mankind" can influence even the smallest of steps we take to reach our goals.

Well-known, Boston-based artist, author and outstanding calligrapher, Margaret Shepherd, has stated, "When we're not sure of how, when and where to go, sometimes your only available transportation is a leap of faith."

And, there's always time for a "leaps and bounds" quip to brighten our paths. Doug Larson, often quoted Wisconsin-based editor and columnist wrote, "Life expectancy would grow by leaps and bounds if green vegetables smelled as good as bacon."

May our days before and after the Leap Year Day of 2020 be filled with accomplishments because we spent time looking before we leaped.



JOAN E. B. COOMBS

## Election letters to the editor welcome

The *Journal Register* welcomes readers to participate in this year's election campaigns by writing letters to the editor for publication on these pages. Letters of up to 250 words from local residents endorsing candidates on the ballot or discussing campaign issues should be sent to The *Journal Register*, care of Turley Publications, 24 Water St., Palmer, MA 01069, faxed to 413-289-1977 or emailed to [dfarmer@turley.com](mailto:dfarmer@turley.com). Please include a daytime telephone number for verification purposes (it will not be printed). Letters must be received by noon Monday to be considered for that Thursday's newspaper. No attack letters will be printed. No letters written by candidates supporting their own candidacy will be printed. If the volume of letters received is larger than the space available in the newspaper, or if the letters become repetitive, the newspaper reserves the right to print a representative sample. No endorsement letters will be printed in the last edition before the election.

For more information, call editor Douglas Farmer at 413-283-8393.

### Campaign news

As part of its election coverage, the newspaper plans to print stories about contested races for Congress, state Senate, state House, district attorney and Governor's Council during the weeks leading up to the election, as well as a question-and-answer voters guide. In order to ensure fairness to all candidates, no political press releases will be printed, nor will reporters cover political rallies or fundraisers.

Candidates who wish to further publicize their candidacy, beliefs and events may contact Lisa Marulli, 413-283-8393 or [lmarrulli@turley.com](mailto:lmarrulli@turley.com), about paid advertising in The *Journal Register*.

## Letters to the editor policy

Letters to the editor should be 250 words or less in length, and guest columns between 500-800 words. No unsigned or anonymous opinions will be published. We require that the person submitting the opinion also include his or her town of residence and home telephone number. We must confirm authorship prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit or withhold any submissions deemed to be libelous, unsubstantiated allegations, personal attacks, or defamation of character.

Please send opinions to: The *Journal Register* Letter to the Editor 24 Water St., Palmer MA 01069, or by e-mail to: [dfarmer@turley.com](mailto:dfarmer@turley.com)

The submission deadline for consideration is Monday at noon.

## NEWS & FEATURES

As a paper of record, we attempt to cover all general news, personality profiles, and community features that we know about. This includes all selectmen and school committee meetings as well as spot planning board, board of health, finance, and other town meetings determined by the issue's relevance to our readers. There are the annual major community event features that we should always cover, but we are more open to suggestions of other features to celebrate the fabric of our communities and their many interesting occupants. Our loyal advertisers provide funding for this paid staff coverage.

For more information on news or community features for The *Journal Register*, please email [dfarmer@turley.com](mailto:dfarmer@turley.com).

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## SOCIAL SECURITY MATTERS

## Will sale of asset affect wife's Social Security?

By Russell Gloor  
Guest columnist

**Dear Rusty:** If I have reached full retirement age (FRA) and wish to sell a \$500,000 asset, will it affect my wife's Social Security if we file jointly? I have heard that it will affect my Medicare (the amount withheld each month) but she still has three more years before she can receive benefits. Is it better to liquidate assets before she reaches FRA if we will be penalized? Would her Medicare be affected as well as mine? Signed: Planning Ahead

**Dear Planning:** Only earnings from working can affect Social Security benefits, so passive income from selling a large asset won't affect your wife's future Social Security benefits nor yours. However, if your "combined income" from all sources (which is your Adjusted Gross Income plus any other non-taxable income you may have, plus 50 percent of your

SS benefits) exceeds certain levels, your Medicare premium will be subject to the Income Related Medicare Adjustment Amount rule, which will add a supplemental amount to your base Medicare Part B premium.

If your combined income, including that sold asset, for the 2020 tax year is between \$326,000 and \$750,000 then your Medicare premium for 2022 will be at least \$462.70. I say "at least" because the Medicare Part B premium can increase each year.

The IRMAA premium increases on a sliding scale starting at \$174,001 of combined income for a married couple filing jointly (\$87,001 for an individual).

If you liquidate that large asset this year, it will be reported on your 2020 income tax return, which will be filed in 2021. That will mean that your Medicare premium for 2022 will be affected by IRMAA, and so will your wife's if she has enrolled in Medicare at age 65 in 2021, which she need not do if she

has other "creditable" healthcare coverage through an employer.

So, should you liquidate that large asset before your wife reaches her Social Security full retirement age? It doesn't matter for Social Security purposes because that passive income will not affect your wife's benefits. But, if your wife enrolls in Medicare at age 65, her Medicare Part B premium, as well as yours, will be subject to IRMAA and, thus be considerably higher than the standard premium of \$144.60 (the amount for 2020).

Note that if your combined income for the following year is low enough to reduce your IRMAA premium, the Medicare premium will revert back to the lower level. Medicare typically uses income data from two years ago to determine current year premium, so they wouldn't normally change your IRMAA premium back until they receive your income data for the previous year from the IRS.

But, it is possible for you to contact Social Security earlier and provide them with proof that your income is now lower than reported in a previous year (causing the higher IRMAA premium), and they will adjust your Medicare premium sooner than they otherwise might.

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Russell Gloor is a Social Security advisor for AMAC.

## BUSINESS

Turley Publications is liberal with regard to its business coverage policies, but we do have some standards folks need to understand. First, local businesses and merchants are just as much institutions in our towns as the library and schools. Without them, there are no towns.

We will feature coverage of local businesses that are new, have a major expansion, moving, closing, under new management or ownership, celebrating a milestone anniversary, or have been thrust into the news realm. Merchants can request that coverage through the editor, or for our existing advertising clients, through their ad representatives.

For more information on business coverage for The *Journal Register*, please email [dfarmer@turley.com](mailto:dfarmer@turley.com).

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# Looking Back

Compiled by Bruce Coulter

## 25 YEARS AGO

FROM THE PAGES OF THE JOURNAL REGISTER THIS WEEK IN 1995 ...

Tambrands donates office supplies to fire victims

By Justin Doyle

THREE RIVERS--One month after the Holbrook Building fire on Main Street devastated the central district, the public outcry of support for the victims is still being heard.

On Friday afternoon, Rick Prouty, executive vice president of the Quaboag Valley Chamber of Commerce and Dan W. Slowick, Clerk for the Palmer Downtown Partnership backed a truck up to the loading dock at the Tambrands Co. in Three Rivers to collect an assortment of donations for the businesses destroyed in the Jan. 17 fire.

Chris Lopes, secretary for credits and collection at Tambrands organized the early spring cleaning for the office secretaries in an attempt to collect used office supplies that could be donated to the businesses in downtown Palmer as a show of support.

Lopes and the secretaries from eight different departments at Tambrands donated approximately 30 boxes of office supplies including three ring binders, tape dispensers, folders, in-baskets, carbon paper, toner and a Christmas tree. Lopes also coordinated an effort to collect office supplies that were in storage and are currently being used.

For Lopes, a native of Palmer, the devastation caused by the Holbrook Building fire was personal, and coordinating the donation was the least she thought she could do for the victims.

"I knew a couple of people who were victims in the fire, and I do live in the Palmer area as well as a couple hundred other employees that work at Tambrands," Lopes said. "The fire affected everyone in the community, and I know if I was in the position where I lost everything in a fire, I would want help from anyone willing to give it."

Two weeks after the fire, Lopes got the idea of making a donation. Because the department secretaries had an abundance of office supplies in storage, Lopes felt that anything she could do in order to help the downtown businesses recover from the fire, was worthwhile.

"I know a few businesses, have already moved out of Palmer to other towns," Lopes said. "I want to help the owners get through this thing so they can get back on their feet right away and stay in Palmer."

With the help of fellow secretary Donna Keaugh, Lopes got authorization for the donation and sent memorandums to all the department secretaries regarding "early spring cleaning." After eight departments responded, Lopes contacted Prouty who was eager to help.

"I was very pleased when Chris called me to ask for my help, it was a welcome surprise," Prouty said. "Things like office supplies can become very expensive to replace. They are the little things that make operation for a business a little easier."

Prouty and Slowick collected the office supplies and took them to the former bank building on the corner of Thorndike and Main Street. Slowick spent Saturday morning with kids involved in the Palmer community service program sorting and dividing the items.

Slowick said even though at first office supplies do not seem as though that are a necessity when restarting a business, they soon become a needed tool for any owner or manager.

"After the loss the business owners endured, they don't see the little things, like indirect losses, like office supplies," Slowick said. "They don't need to worry about



FROM THE PAGES OF THE PALMER JOURNAL THIS WEEK IN 1995: Go Fish... Wales Boy Scout Troop 765 sponsored a fishing derby Saturday morning that was held at the town beach on Lake George, Wales. Participants included Amy Guertin, of Springfield, Wales residents Lynn Hall, Craig Hall, Eric Duda, Chris Holl, Jason Yargeau, and David Stearns, holding his 14-3/4-inch pickerel. (Photo by Brenda Sherman)



FROM THE PAGES OF THE PALMER JOURNAL THIS WEEK IN 1995: Left, musician Ron Jones, of Monson, entertains guests at the Coffee House put on by the Monson Arts Council Thursday night at Memorial Hall. Right, Monson resident John Thorpe plays his dulcimer. (Photo by Brenda Sherman)



FROM THE PAGES OF THE JOURNAL REGISTER THIS WEEK IN 1970: Polish Citizens Club of Three Rivers elected officers at a recent meeting. New officers shown in the photo from left to right: Chester Marchelewicz, financial secretary; Stanley Swiatlowski, president; Daniel Janniewicz, vice president; and Michael Piechota, treasurer. Missing: John Dougal, secretary.

file folders immediately, but four or five weeks after the fire, when the businesses are attempting to recover, supplies suddenly become a concern."

Prouty said that the donation that Tambrands made for the victims of the fire is just one more example of how a community which pulled together in order to help and support their neighbors.

"When it comes down to it, the Palmer area has really lent a helping hand, and they are still supporting the downtown," Prouty said. "This is the type of thing, that separates us from a place like New York City, where you may never even talk to your neighbors. Everyone (in Palmer) understands when a tragedy occurs and tries to help."

## 50 YEARS AGO

FROM THE PAGES OF THE JOURNAL REGISTER THIS WEEK IN 1970 ...

Diamond National Honors Workers at Service Dinner

Diamond National Corporation of Church St., Thorndike, a subsidiary of Diamond International Corporation held a recognition of service dinner Friday evening, February 20, 1970 at the Salem Cross

Inn, East Brookfield.

The dinner was held as a recognition of the significant contributions made by the honored Diamond employees over the years. Employees retiring in 1970 were honored at the dinner and also honored were employees completing 25 years or more of service to the company in 1970.

Following a roast beef dinner served the group family style, Mr. Norman F. Rauscher, Thorndike, Plant Mgr., informally addressed each of the honored employees after the dinner descriptively reminiscing with each their personal growth with the company.

Considering the longevity with the company of the employees being honored, many fond and treasured memories were brought to light for the enjoyment of the whole group.

Developments in the plant for 1970 were reviewed and all in attendance were in agreement that continued concern and cooperation of all Diamond National employees as shown in the past is a necessary factor towards the continued progress of products quality and customer satisfaction which is every so necessary in today's competitive market.

Retiring in 1970 are: John Cantwell, Bridget Lebida, Edgar Levesque, Herman Horton, and



FROM THE PAGES OF THE PALMER JOURNAL THIS WEEK IN 1995: Saqr (pronounced "Soccer"), an Arab gelding owned by Susan Smith, of Belchertown, enjoys the sun's rays in spite of last week's wintry temperatures. Smith says the white horse spends mornings "soaking up the sun" in the field outside the south Liberty Street barn. (Photo by Rebecca Drake)



FROM THE PAGES OF THE JOURNAL REGISTER THIS WEEK IN 1970: Diamond National Corporation honors retirees of 1970 at a recent recognition of service dinner. Left to right are George Sweeney, Edgar Levesque, John Cantwell, Bridget Lebida, Herman Horton and Plant Manager Norman Rauscher.



FROM THE PAGES OF THE JOURNAL REGISTER THIS WEEK IN 1920: Soldiers of Fortune

George Sweeney.

Twenty-five years or more service: John Cantwell, George Christman, Bridget Lebida, Wanda Mega, Helen Polanski, George Sweeney, Walter Topor, Burt Royce, Wilfred Bonneville, Joseph Siok, Herman Horton, Chester Godek, Lile Brown, Stanley Muniec, Edgar Levesque and Walter Siok.

## HERE 'N' THERE

The firm of Laming Smith and Auchtner of Springfield has purchased the Ratigan home on 28 Thorndike Street, Palmer. After some redecorating they will be setting up a law and title search operation at this location.

A surprise 40th birthday party was given in honor of Harry Gordon, Saturday evening at his home. Attending guests were: Zitch and Fay Anderson, Elli and Sue Baker, Arthur and Roberta Biron, Walt and Connie Chase, Scott and Barbara Draper, Dick and Mary Lou Hebert, Frank and Helen Mancuso, Bill and Grace McDonald, Ber-

nard and Marge Meyer and Don and Ruth Robbins.

\*\*\*

St. Anne's Parish of Three Rivers will hold its annual bazaar at the Parish Hall March 5, 6, and 7. Matinees Friday and Saturday afternoons. A special attraction this year - suppers will be served each evening. Tickets are now on sale at Belanger's Store on Main Street in Three Rivers.

\*\*\*

Airman Michael E. Matera, son of Mr. and Mrs. Stanley J. Matera of 30 Harvey St., Thorndike, has received his first U.S. Air Force duty assignment after completing basic training at Lackland AFB, Texas. The airman has been assigned to a unit of the Strategic Air Command at Westover AFB, Mass., for training and duty in the data systems field. Airman Matera is a 1965 graduate of Palmer High School and attended Assumption College, Worcester.

of intense dramatic and romantic interest, set forth in many climatic scenes. For the filming of the big scenes where the principals of the story are attacked at the hacienda by Mendoza's soldiers and are saved in the nick of time by the arrival of American battleships that send sailors to the rescue of a number of large sets at the top of the mountain, where the material had to be carried by ox carts and pack burro, was no small undertaking; then the job of properly costuming nearly five hundred men who were to take part in the scenes. The

securing of guns for them, the setting of mines to be exploded during the action of the scene. The problem of getting enough horses together was a large one. The impatience of the men on the horses was apparent, and at any signal they started. In their midst was even Lorenzo Lopez, who at one time had been a member of Villa's famous Escorta el Dorado, "The Guard of Gold." With a shout he waived the men, and down they came, riding like demons while the men inside the corral at the Hacienda did their utmost to keep them out. Meanwhile, on his platform, built to give him command of the entire action, the producer sat with a smile on his face, as he remarked; "Those fellows are surely out for blood" — which there were. He had given the riders the chance for action they wanted. Accidents were few, for the men had all known the work through actual "raiding" experience and the doctors who were waiting emergency calls had very little to do. The medics indeed, were the only ones concerned with the filming of the big scene that were not on the jump every moment.

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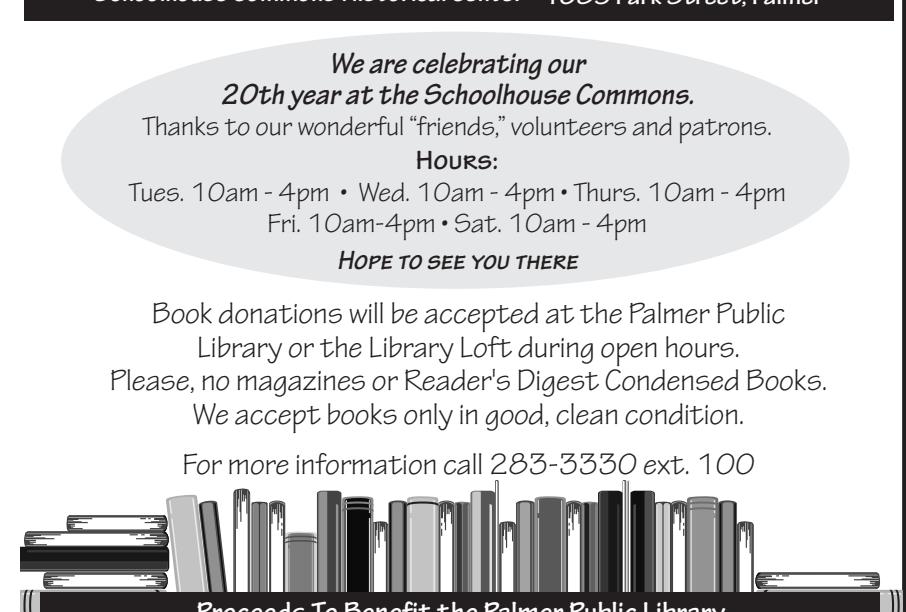
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The Journal Register



## Meeting in March on new highway exit numbers

SPRINGFIELD — State transportation officials have scheduled additional meetings about the planned switch to mileage-based exit numbers on major highways.

After a first round of sessions was held in December, there will be at least one additional Western Massachusetts date this spring. The Massachusetts Department of Transportation will hold a public information meeting at 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, March 24, in Room 220 of City Hall, 36 Court St., Springfield. All are invited to learn more about the project and ask questions in person.

The conversion, planned to begin this summer, will affect most highways with exit numbers in Massachusetts, including Interstates 84, 90, 91, 190, 290 and 395, and the expressway portions of state routes such as Route 2.

For example, on the Massachusetts Turnpike, rather than running from Exit 1 in West Stockbridge to Exit 26 at Logan Airport, mileage-based exit numbers will start at 3 and end at 137. The former Exits 5 at Route 33 and 6 at I-291, both in Chicopee, will become Exits 49 and 51 respectively.

A handful of short expressways with closely spaced exits, including Interstates 291 and 391 in the Springfield area, will not see their numbers change.

The switch will bring most highways in Massachusetts, one of the last states in the country to number its exits sequentially, into compliance with 2009 federal standards. The project is expected to cost \$2.8 million, statewide, of which 90 percent will be paid by a federal grant. MassDOT officials have said if the exit numbers are not changed by 2022, Massachusetts could have its federal highway aid withheld.

MassDOT also plans to schedule additional meetings this spring and summer. For more information about the project, visit [www.NewMassExits.com](http://www.NewMassExits.com).

## Blacksmithing basics classes offered

WEST SPRINGFIELD — Registration is now open for "Basics for Blacksmithing," an educational class at Storrowton Village Museum. The class is an introduction to the craft of metalworking and will be taught in the museum's Clark Blacksmith Shop, a building that dates back to 1853.

The "Basics of Blacksmithing" course will cover fundamental smithing skills such as tapering, spreading, bending, scrolling and shouldering, techniques present in all levels of blacksmithing, whether creating simple hooks or more complicated projects. Students will also understand shop safety, the differences of working at coal and gas forges, and the working pace of a smith.

Willow Zietman, an artist blacksmith and blacksmithing instructor from Lunenburg, will teach students the basics of heating and shaping steel. Trained at Pioneer Village in Salem, Haystack Mountain School of Crafts in Deer Isle, Maine, and at Penland School of Crafts in Spruce Pine, North Carolina, she currently teaches classes at Prospect Hill Forge in Waltham and The Steel Yard in Providence, Rhode Island. Zietman has also demonstrated the trade at events such as the New England Blacksmiths Fall Meet and Providence's PVDFEST.

"Willow is an accomplished smith who has a non-traditional approach to teaching others about the traditional trade of working with iron," said Museum Director Jessica K. Fontaine. "We're lucky to have her as an instructor for one of the most popular educational opportunities here at the Village."

"Basics of Blacksmithing" will take place Thursday evenings from March 12 through April 30, from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. The maximum class size is four students and no previous experience is necessary to enroll in this class. Tools and leather aprons will be provided for use and metal will be included for practice and exercises. The cost for this class is \$385, with proceeds to benefit the museum's educational programs.

Online sign-ups are open until March 11, or until the class is full. After that time, interested students will be put on a waitlist for future blacksmithing classes at the museum. To learn more and to register, call 413-205-5051 or visit [storrowtonvillage.com](http://storrowtonvillage.com).

## Creative writing and publishing workshop

WEST BROOKFIELD — The fifth annual creative writing and publishing workshop will be held on Sunday, March 15, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., at the Salem Cross Inn in West Brookfield.

Local award-winning author Ed Londergan provides a full day of information. "The workshop will cover the entire writing and publishing process from how to develop ideas, story structure, character development, creation of atmosphere/location, how to put together a chapter, creating authentic dialogue, the flow of the book and how to hold readers interest," Londergan said. "With the great interest local writers have in getting published, I thought it's best to spend more time on that aspect than I have in

past workshops. Finding an agent, which is complicated and difficult, will also be addressed."

"The purpose of the workshop is to help those people who want to write but don't know where to start, or have had an idea for a story that's been bubbling in their head for years and finally want to put it on paper. I also help people that have written something and need to know how to move ahead."

The past workshops have been attended by a variety of people of all ages and occupations from 12-year-old students to 75-year-old retirees, all of whom have a story to tell.

"One of the things that past attendees have enjoyed and learned from is the writing exercises," Londergan said. "They write about

everything from their favorite holiday memory to their pets to what they had for breakfast." He uses fun writing prompts for the exercises.

"Back-and-forth discussion is always a popular part of the day. Attendees learn from each other. Individual issues or problems anyone is having with their writing are discussed and the group helps them with suggestions and observations. At times, there have been a lot of "that happened to me and here's what I did."

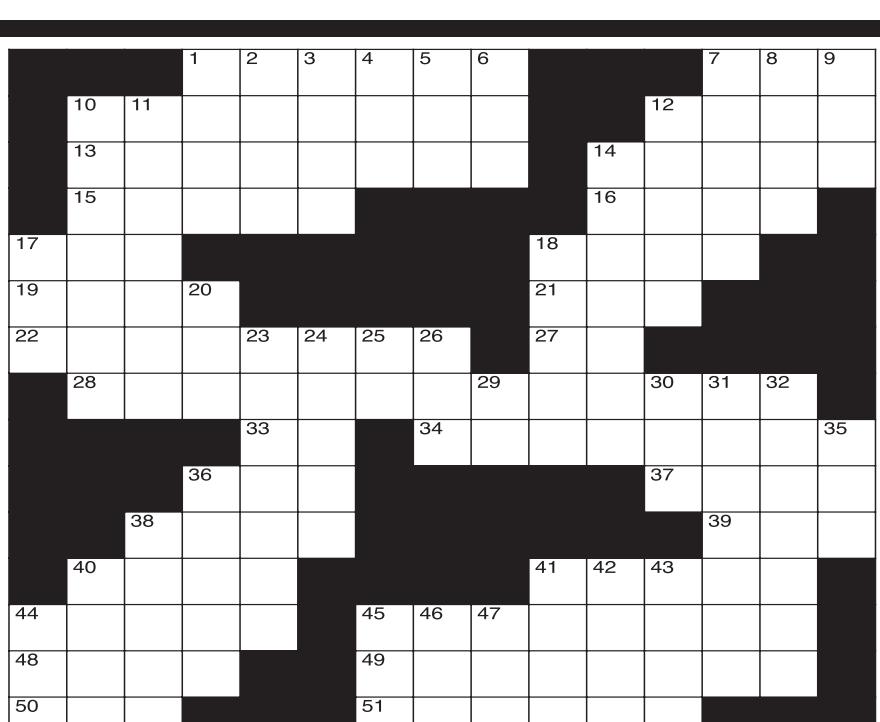
The cost is \$95 and lunch is included. The workshop is limited to 20 participants and registration is required. The registration deadline is March 7. To register email [ed.londergan@gmail.com](mailto:ed.londergan@gmail.com) or call 508-864-8685.

## Lupa Zoo fundraiser on March 14

LUDLOW — Lupa Zoo will hold its "17th annual Winter Fundraiser" on Saturday, March 14, at 6 p.m., at the Polish American Citi-

zen's Club located at 355 East St. There will be Polish-American buffet dinner, a raffle and music. Tickets are \$35 each. To purchase tickets,

call 413-589-9883 or email [info@lupazoo.org](mailto:info@lupazoo.org).



**CLUES ACROSS**

- 1. Stain one's hands
- 7. Subdivision
- 10. A passage to be performed slow
- 12. Invests in little enterprises
- 13. Medians
- 14. Member of the giraffe family
- 15. Makes official
- 16. Choose in an election
- 17. Hill or rocky peak
- 18. Member of an ancient Iranian people
- 19. Crest of a hill
- 21. Small, faint constellation
- 22. Cultivated from crops that yield oil
- 27. The ancient Egyptian sun god

**CLUES DOWN**

- 28. Hollywood tough guy
- 33. Chinese drums
- 34. Merits
- 36. Indicates center
- 38. Mentally fit
- 39. BBQ favorite
- 40. Wings
- 41. Female parents
- 44. Marks left from wounds
- 45. Soften by soaking in liquid
- 48. They resist authority (slang)
- 49. Formats
- 50. Many subconsciousnesses
- 51. Vogues

2. Blackbird

3. Undergarments

4. Old cloth

5. One from Utah

6. Greek goddess of the dawn

7. Become less intense

8. Developed to readiness

9. Defunct phone company

10. About Freemason

11. Taking everything into account

12. Famed Czech engineer

14. Impress into silence

17. Boxing term

18. Marketplaces

20. Pounds per square inch

23. Locomotives

24. Short musical composition

25. Football position (abbr.)

26. Heavyhearted

29. Denotes particular region

30. Famed NIHler

31. Ingested too much

32. Formulates

35. Sino-Soviet block (abbr.)

36. Broad, shallow craters

38. Thick cuts

40. Breezed through

41. Breakfast is one

42. "Rule, Britannia" composer

43. Periodicals (slang)

44. Indian title of respect

45. More (Spanish)

46. Creation

47. A loud utterance



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## A night of social media education will be paired with the perfect wine

HARDWICK — Let's Get Social: Chikmedia and Healthy Town Living will be hosting a night of social media and personal branding education paired with the perfect wine from local vineyard, Hardwick Vineyard and Winery, on Thursday, March 19, from 5 to 7 p.m., at Hardwick Winery, 3305 Greenwich Road. These local businesses are teaming up to shape the future of local female entrepreneurs, while indulging in local, tasty treats.

The social media and personal branding workshop will cover all the basics and share knowledge on the vital components needed to launch a comprehensive, effective personal brand. Trends, demographics and successful tips on how to brand yourself effectively will be covered, along with the ins and outs of the social media platforms that fuel the success of a campaign. The workshop will cover the must-haves for a professional online presence and will teach what types of content works best and where it should be posted to engage more followers.

Healthy Town Living, a partner in this event, crafts her own

recipes or modifies others, to make them healthier. Owner Donna Holden's mission is to inspire and educate others to live a healthy life by creating recipes that can show the community how to turn locally-grown ingredients into healthy and satisfying recipes. Healthy Town Living will be work with Reeds Country Store and local farms to create a delicious, healthy meal, which will nicely go with a glass of local wine from Hardwick Vineyard and Winery for guests to enjoy.

"I am so excited to bring Chikmedia to Hardwick," said Holden. "We have a lot of amazing female entrepreneurs and businesses in this rural area that can really benefit from this type of event. Sometimes we get forgotten about out here in the country, so I love to showcase and remind people to look locally before they go searching beyond for food or services. I also love that this is a wonderful time for our community to come together to network and appreciate what they are bringing to this area."

"This workshop is intended to be for all levels of social media users: those who have just started,

and those who are looking to fine tune their skills," said Meghan Rothschild, owner and president of Chikmedia. "In today's world, keeping up to date on the latest is critical to success, and this workshop will do just that."

Chikmedia is a boutique firm that puts an emphasis on female-run organizations and women business owners; offering strategic marketing planning and creative public relations. Started by award-winning women, Chikmedia seeks to improve marketing campaigns, target messaging and create campaigns that reflect individual business personalities.

Healthy Town Living is an online destination for all things, healthy living and eating. Holden, lives an active lifestyle who loves to cook and eat healthy, "real" food. Intrigued by what food can do to a person, and how food choices can influence the way a body feels, she crafts her own recipes or modifies others, to make them healthier.

Anyone who wishes to attend should contact Meghan Rothschild at [Meghan@chikmedia.us](mailto:Meghan@chikmedia.us).

## Second Chance performs 55,000 spayings/neuterings in 20 years

SPRINGFIELD — Second Chance Animal Services has marked another milestone in their 20-year history of helping pets in need. The organization performed their 55,000th spay/neuter surgery earlier this month at their newest nonprofit veterinary hospital in Springfield.

Second Chance's low-cost spay/neuter program began in 2005 at the East Brookfield shelter to help stem pet homelessness in the surrounding community. Today, hundreds of pets come to the three nonprofit hospitals in Springfield, Worcester and North Brookfield each month for spay/neuter surgery in state-of-the-art surgical suites made possible by grants and generous donors.

Second Chance surgeons are specially trained to perform the

highest-quality high-volume surgeries. Pets check in early morning and are discharged later the same day so they can recuperate in the comfort of their own homes with their owners.

Second Chance founder and CEO Sheryl Blancato is proud of the longstanding low-cost spay/neuter program and said, "Thanks to these surgeries, less pets are ending up in Massachusetts shelters, which means more pets in shelters are getting a second chance."

Pet owners who would like to take advantage of this program for their pet can visit [www.secondchanceanimals.org](http://www.secondchanceanimals.org) and fill out a S.P.O.T. application under the Vet Care tab.

as other topics. The courses are family friendly and children in grade 7 or above are invited to attend. Upon completion the certificate received from the course satisfies most U.S. state requirements for licensing and may reduce your maritime insurance costs.

The 10-week course is free to attend and will run from 7-9 p.m. on Monday evenings at the Collaborative Educational Services, located at 123 Hawley St. in Northampton. To register, please call 413-533-3325 or email [flotila97@hotmail.com](mailto:flotila97@hotmail.com).

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### LOCAL Opportunity IS KNOCKING

#### STAFF WRITER POSITION

Turley Publications is seeking an energetic person to fill the position of staff writer for two of its weekly publications: the Ware River News, which covers Ware, Hardwick and Warren, and the Quaboag Current, which covers the Brookfields, Sturbridge and New Braintree. This full-time position is based in our Ware office at 80 Main St. The successful candidate will have strong community journalism skills or the enthusiasm to develop them.

The staff writer will cover municipal meetings, features and general news; essentially everything that unfolds in small towns. Assignments will be for both newspapers as well as other companywide publications.

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- Bachelor's degree or equivalent experience
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- Enthusiasm for community journalism
- Ability to write clean copy in a fast-paced environment

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## Region

### DCR announces 2020 Arbor Day Poster Contest for students

BOSTON — Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation Commissioner Jim Montgomery last week announced the theme of the agency's 2020 fifth grade Arbor Day Poster Contest: "Trees Please." Fifth graders from around the state enrolled in both public and private schools, as well as home-schooled students, are encouraged to participate in the annual Arbor Day Poster Contest by creating posters highlighting this year's theme. Schools are then asked to host a poster contest to determine the winner. The winning poster from each school can then be submitted to the agency for review. Home schooled or non-participating school students may submit their posters and enter the contest individually.

"Trees are not only beautiful, but play a key role in the health of our environment, and I'm thrilled that each year fifth graders demonstrate this importance by participating in the Department of Conservation and Recreation's annual Arbor Day Poster Contest," said DCR Commissioner Jim Montgomery. "I look forward to 2020's creative entries from students throughout the Commonwealth highlighting this year's theme 'Trees Please'."

First place prizes for the DCR Arbor Day Poster Contest include a tree planting ceremony at the winner's school, a certificate for art and science supplies, and more. Second Place, Third Place, and Honorable Mention winners will also receive art and science supplies.

"The Arbor Day Poster Contest is a good chance for students to creatively express what they've learned," said Elementary and Secondary Education Commissioner Jeffrey C. Riley. "I hope that many of our fifth grade artists, scientists, activists, and arborists take the challenge."

Trees offer many benefits to people and to the environment, including the reduction in energy use for heating and cooling; the cleansing of both water and air; the reduction of noise pollution; the beautification of communities; and providing of habitats for wildlife.

This year's theme, "Trees Please" is designed to highlight the importance of trees within Massachusetts' communities and diverse landscapes throughout the state. Additionally, the Arbor Day Poster Contest combines both art and science in an effort to instill the vital role trees have on the public's daily lives. The DCR Urban and Community Forestry Program, with support from the U.S. Forest Service, sponsors the annual contest for fifth graders across the Commonwealth.

Posters must be submitted by March 15, 2020, and the contest is open to all students currently enrolled in the fifth grade. An Arbor Day Poster Contest Guide is available on the DCR website or can be obtained by contacting Mollie Freilicher, 413-577-2966 or mollie.freilicher@mass.gov.

### STCC Asphalt Academy class starts March 9

SPRINGFIELD — Registration is open for Springfield Technical Community College's Asphalt Academy Pre-Apprenticeship Program, which begins March 9.

The program provides an opportunity to obtain asphalt certifications through training in the new mobile asphalt classroom at STCC.

Anyone now working in the asphalt industry can enhance their career through New England Transportation Technician Certification Program advanced certifications.

Those who are interested in a career in the asphalt industry may wish to consider the Pre-Apprenticeship Asphalt Quality Control program with paid on the job training, career counseling, an NETTCP certification and transitioning into the Massachusetts Aggregate and Asphalt Pavement Association Apprenticeship program, said Elliot Levy, senior director of the Workforce Development Center at STCC.

Levy said some scholarship funds may be available. Call the Workforce Development Center at 413-755-4225 for details.

STCC now has a state-of-the-art asphalt testing laboratory that recreates labs used in the industry. In addition, STCC received a donation from Aggregate Industries, of Wrentham, a member of MAAPA of additional equipment including scales, a sieve shaker and sieves used to test the grading of coarse and fine aggregates.

Students can work with state-of-the-art equipment in addition to being able to train in the new lab.

"We are grateful to Aggregate Industries for their generous donation and support," Levy said.

The asphalt training is possible through collaborative efforts with the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Department of Transportation, MAAPA and the NETTCP.

The class is filling fast and limited seats are available. For more information, visit [stcc.edu/wdc](http://stcc.edu/wdc) or call 413-755-4225.

Founded in 1967 and located on 35 acres of the Springfield Armory National Historic Site, STCC is a major resource for the economic vitality of Western Massachusetts. As the only technical community college in Massachusetts, STCC offers a variety of career programs unequalled in the state. STCC's highly regarded transfer programs in business, advanced manufacturing, healthcare, liberal arts and STEM fields continue to provide the most affordable options for students pursuing a four-year degree. It has an annual enrollment of about 7,000 day, evening, weekend, and online students.

For more information about STCC, visit [www.stcc.edu](http://www.stcc.edu).

### Gov. Baker to help celebrate grand opening of HCC Campus Center on Friday, February 28

HOLYOKE — Holyoke Community College will welcome Gov. Charlie Baker and other state and local officials on Friday, Feb. 28, for the grand opening celebration of its Campus Center, following a two-year, \$43.5 million, top-to-bottom renovation and expansion.

The event begins at 2 p.m. for tours, remarks, ribbon-cutting, food and a variety of student-led activities on all three floors of the 66,000-square-foot facility.

Other expected guests include Patricia Marshall, deputy commissioner for Academic

Affairs and Student Success at the Department of Higher Education; Holyoke Mayor Alex Morse; state Sen. Jo Comerford, of Northampton; State Rep. Aaron Vega, of Holyoke; State Rep. Lindsay Sabadosa, of Northampton; State Rep. Daniel Carey, of Easthampton; State Rep. Brian Ashe, of Longmeadow; and State Rep. Angelo Puppolo, of Springfield.

A short speaking program in the second floor dining area will begin at 2:30 p.m. with remarks from Baker; state Secretary of Education Jim Poyer; HCC President Christina

Royal; and Maiw Lee-Ruiz, a nursing student and New Student Orientation leader from Holyoke.

Before and after the speeches, guests will be invited to sample food prepared by HCC Dining Services/Armark; listen to live music from an HCC student quartet; play dominoes with students in El Centro (home to HCC's Multicultural Academic Services program); watch eSports students in action on a virtual playing field; buy HCC gear in the College Store; and visit HCC's Student Engagement area to talk to students repre-

senting clubs and other campus activities.

The Campus Center first opened in 1978, and had been plagued by insidious leaks and water damage for decades before it was closed for reconstruction in 2017. The lower floors of the building were essentially gutted down to its concrete foundation and supports before being rebuilt. It reopened for the start of the fall 2019 semester while construction crews continued the finish work.

Key parts of the project included adding about 9,000 square feet to the

57,000-square-foot building, enclosing an external walkway on the second floor to expand the dining area, squaring off the sloping facade and encapsulating the entire building to make it water tight, adding an atrium entrance off the HCC Courtyard on the west side and a bridge over Tannery Brook that leads from a dedicated visitors parking lot to a first-floor welcome center, where visitors and students will find easier access to HCC's offices of Admissions, Advising, Careers, Transfer and Testing.

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# Zoo on the Go visits the library



Palmer Public Library Youth Services Librarian Angela Sanches, introduces Zoo Educators Savannah Marcotte and Stephanie Hodges from the Zoo in Forest Park, in Springfield, to the those gathered for the event at the library.



Ferret twin brothers, Logan and Drako, are introduced to the crowd.

Turley Publications staff photos by Jonah Snowden



Stephanie Hodges introduces an African pygmy hedgehog named Mindy to the children.



Children take turns petting an African pygmy hedgehog named Mindy.



Children gathered around to see and pet Chinese water dragon Asia.



Children were wowed as a red tail boa constrictor named "Crock" is lifted from its bag during a visit from Zoo on the Go last week.



Ella, a cockatoo, was released from her cage, and repeated the words of Zoo Educators Savannah Marcotte and Stephanie Hodges throughout the show.



A 17-year-old tortoise, Angus, slowly made his way to the children during a visit from Zoon on the Go at the Public Palmer Library last week.

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## MIAA

## Final vote for state tournament looms this week

By Gregory A. Scibelli  
[gscibelli@turley.com](mailto:gscibelli@turley.com)

REGION — It comes down to a meeting scheduled for Friday, Feb. 28 at 9:45 a.m. to decide whether the Massachusetts Interscholastic Athletic Association will move forward with a proposal to have a statewide postseason tournament, and eliminate the sectional tournaments.

The vote will take place at a special meeting of the Board of Directors at Assabet Valley Regional Technical High School beginning at 9:45 a.m.

The meeting will be held for representatives from the 380 members schools, all of which will have a vote on the proposal.

For Western and Central Massachusetts, the statewide tournament proposal would create a 32-team state tournament with additional teams vying to qualify by a .500 record.

It would eliminate the sectional tournaments that currently take place in most sports.

Overall, the proposal has seen some resistance from many athletic directors in Western Mass., who believe the statewide proposal favors the eastern part of the state.

Another contentious issue is how the teams will be ranked. Because of the diversity of teams and leagues in Western Massachusetts, the region has used the Walker system for many years. It factors elements like wins, wins against other qualifying teams, and strength of schedule, applying point values to teams in certain leagues.

The Western Mass. tournament,

MIAA | page 11



Saige Youngberg stays low, maneuvering through the defense.

## Panthers fall in finale

By Tim Peterson  
*Sports Correspondent*

PALMER — The Lady Tigers, who might be peaking at the right time, closed out the regular season by cruising to a 64-43 non-league road win over the Lady Panthers on President's Day.

"I'm very happy with how well my team is playing right now and this is a very big win for us," said South Hadley head coach Paul Dubuc. "We just beat another tournament team and it should give us a higher seed. Hopefully, we're peaking at the right time of the season."

South Hadley completed the regular season with a 9-11 overall record, but still qualified for the postseason tournament by finishing in second place in the Suburban League standings with a 6-2 record.

The Lady Tigers entered the postseason tournament as the seventh seed and were scheduled to

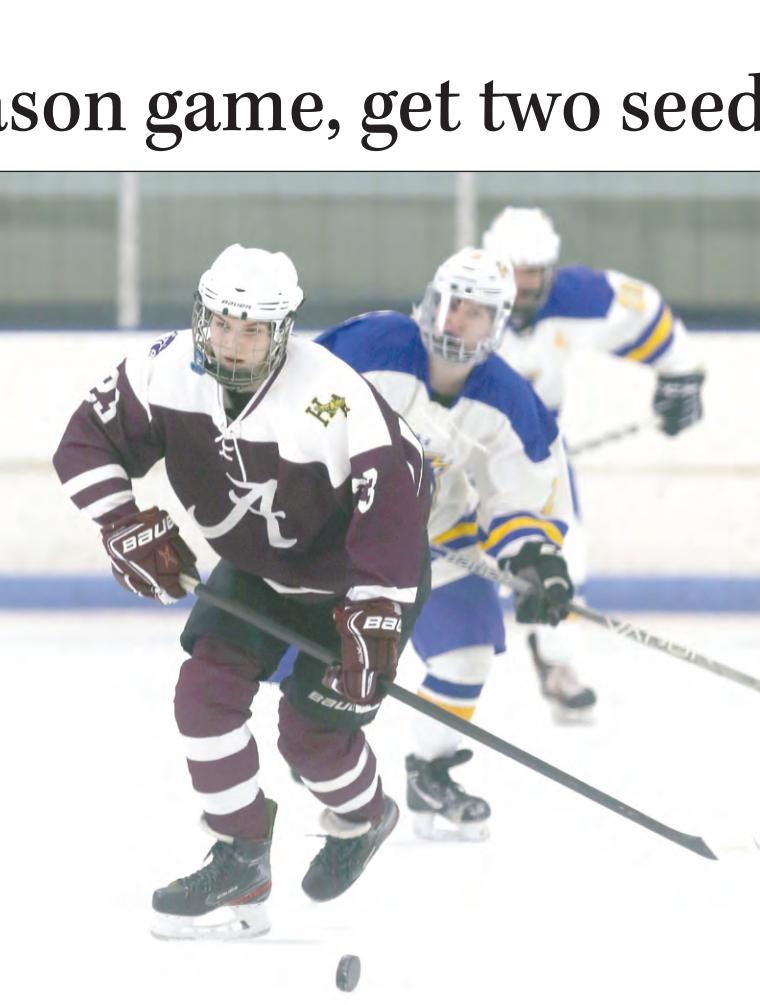


Madalyn Theriault splits the defense as she goes in for the layup.

host No. 10 Mahar Regional in a first-round game on Monday night. The winner of that contest will play a quarterfinal road game against second-seeded Hampshire Regional on Thursday night.

The road win against Palmer was South Hadley's fourth consecutive victory and it was also the most points that they've scored in a game this season. The Lady Tigers scored 60 points in road victories against league rivals Agawam and Granby.

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## GIRLS BASKETBALL



Photos by Jack Cascio NEAP.smugmug.com

Mia Krupczak and Kylie Meridos team up to commandeer this rebound.

## Mustangs cap amazing regular campaign

MONSON — Last Monday night, the Monson High School girls basketball team won its 18th game with a 63-24 triumph over Baystate Academy. The Mustangs finished the regular season an impressive 18-2, earned the No. 1 seed in the Division 4 tournament, and has not lost a game since Jan. 6, with 15 straight wins since then. Monson will host a quarterfinal matchup on Thursday, Feb. 27.



Olivia Chrzan lays this shot up for two.



Madison Bonneau drives to the paint.



Mya Walker looks to pass as she grabs this rebound.



Tennessee Murphy dribbles down court.

## BASKETBALL

## Tantasqua pulls out win prior to postseason

By Chris Droschn  
*Sports Correspondent*

WARREN — There are times and moments when something that happens within the game is bigger than sports. Sports are generally about competing to the best of your abilities and trying to win. However, at Senior Night for the boys varsity basketball team of Quaboag Regional on Feb. 11, the night was about something larger than sports.

The team lost to Tantasqua Regional at home. It was a lopsided score, 63-39, with Tantasqua pulling out the win. However, the ravenous crowd, and all eyes in the gym turned to what would happen with Quaboag Senior, Adam Bolaske.

Bolaske was the only senior for Quaboag being honored during



Photos by Jack Cascio NEAP.smugmug.com

Tyler Hall grabs this rebound.

## ICE HOCKEY

## Hurricanes take final season game, get two seed



Brandon Peritz fights to keep the puck during Amherst's final regular season game against Chicopee Comprehensive last week.

By Tim Peterson  
*Sports Correspondent*

HOLYOKE — The Amherst varsity hockey team finished the regular season in first place in the Fay Division standings for the second consecutive year and for the third time since 2016.

The Hurricanes accomplished the feat with a 4-1 victory over league rival Chicopee Comp at the Fitzpatrick Arena in Holyoke on Feb. 19.

"It just feels awesome to win another league title," said senior Brandon Peritz, who's one of the six players from Palmer High School listed on the Hurricanes roster. "Everyone on our hockey team gets along with each other very well. We're like one big family."

Amherst, who also has a co-op with Hopkins Academy, concluded the regular season with a 13-4-3 overall record. They posted a 7-1-2 league record and finishing in first

place one point ahead of Wahconah Regional.

"There was a lot of parity in our league this year," said Amherst head coach Mike Rousseau. "Wahconah was a much-improved team. We also had hard fought battles with South Hadley, Chicopee High, Chicopee Comp and Ludlow. There weren't any easy games."

Amherst entered the Western Mass. Division 3A tournament as the second seed. They received a bye into the semifinals, which are scheduled to be held at the Olympia Ice Center in West Springfield.

HOCKEY | page 10

field on Saturday. The Hurricanes will be facing either sixth-seeded Belchertown or third-seeded Wahconah.

Rousseau was expecting his squad to be the number two seed in the postseason tournament.

"I think we'll be the two seed in the tournament because of our strength of schedule," Rousseau said. "We're the only Division 3A team to defeat two Berry Division teams (East Longmeadow + Agawam) this year. We also lost to Minnchaug, who's the top-seed."

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TANTASQUA | page 11

## T-Birds set for big homestand after OT win

SPRINGFIELD — The Springfield Thunderbirds (30-24-2-0) clawed back from a 2-0 deficit to stun the Syracuse Crunch (26-22-4-5) by a final score of 3-2 in overtime on Sunday at the MassMutual Center.

After Springfield came up empty on two early power play chances in the opening six minutes, Philippe Desrosiers was a busy netminder for Springfield in the first period, as Syracuse got shots on the T-Birds goalie from all angles, with 18 of them to show for in the first 20 minutes of the game.

Unfortunately, Desrosiers' 18th save attempt was the one that came up empty with just 2.2 seconds on the clock, as Daniel Walcott stole a puck from a T-Bird along the left-wing wall before hitting defenseman Cal Foote in the high slot. With time ticking down, Foote hit the back of the net on the blocker side of Desrosiers to give Syracuse a 1-0 lead after the first.

Defenses tightened in the opening ten

minutes of the seconds, as the teams jockeyed for offensive chances. The Crunch then got their first power play of the night at 10:21, and at 12:01, a fortuitous bounce off a T-Birds skate came right to Taylor Raddysh at the left circle. With plenty of room to load up a slap shot, Raddysh blasted the puck through Desrosiers on the glove side to add to the Crunch lead, 2-0.

In need of a spirit-lifter, the Thunderbirds received just that from Ethan Prow, who extended his personal point streak to five games at 17:25, as he wristed a puck from center point position past the blocker side of Syracuse goalie Spencer Martin, who had stopped 19 of 20 through 40 minutes. Rodrigo Abols picked up the lone helper, as he won the face-off that immediately preceded Prow's eighth goal of the year.

Down a goal heading into the third, the Thunderbirds pushed the issue in the Syracuse zone, and Mason Marchment drew a power play as he was taken

down at the side of the net. At 11:39 of the third, Henrik Borgstrom tied the score as he roofed a short-side wrist shot from the right circle thanks to a Jack Rodewald screen in front of the net. Prow picked up his second point of the night with the primary assist.

With the 2-2 score in tow, both teams failed to come up with a power play marker and the score carried into the overtime period. After Desrosiers denied an Alex Volkov shot past the two-minute mark of the period, Brady Keeper charged up the left-wing side, beat a defender to the near post, and chipped a forehand over the glove of Martin to win it for Springfield at 2:17 of the overtime. Desrosiers picked up the assist on the game-winning tally, Keeper's second overtime marker of the season.

Six of Springfield's next seven games will remain inside the MassMutual Center, beginning with a tangle on Friday, Feb. 28 against Bridgeport at 7:05 p.m.

## Bondsville Bowling News

By Dave Smigiel

Kibbe's Saw Mill has leapfrogged the Narutowicz in the hunt for the "wildcard" playoff berth as they had no problem downing them 7-0. Tony Burke with 101, Jim Quinlin with 102 and Dave Burke with 103 combined in the first to counter Lee Robinson's excellent 123 resulting in a 16-pin victory. Lee came back with a 107 second, however, Tony's 115 and Jim's 100 produced an easy win. In the third, it was Jim's 120 and Tyler Kibbe's 100 that settled the issue. Jim topped the victors at 322 with Tony at 301 while Lee was the top barman at 330. Pinfall by 101 for Kibbe's.

Despite dropping a 5-2 decision to the Cannibals, the Incredibowls have extended their Western lead to five over the Towicz. Keith Marchessault with 355 (111, 118, 126) and Micah Hinckley with 331 (112, 105, 114) combined to lead the Canniball attack. The Incredibowls lone points came in the second as Aaron Plankey's super 139 along with Steve

Swistak's 104 and Billy Brunk's 105 secured the win by 10. Steve added singles of 126 and 116 and led his quartet at 346. Aaron followed at 322 while Peter Swistak chipped in with 109 and 308. Pinfall to the Cannibals by 41.

In the Central, the Night Hawks opened with easy wins in the first two and went on to defeat Fire Mountain 5-2 taking pinfall by 86. Darryl Sinclair led the way as his league leading 366 resulted from strings of 106, 127 and 133. Aiding was Gavin Sinclair at 331 (137 and 104) and Dave Fennery 308 (112 and 104). The Hawks fell one skinny little pin shy of a sweep as Bob LaPlante's 100, Gary Delisle's 108 and Rick Trott's 104 did the trick. Rick also tossed a 108 and led his squad at 305.

Sandri kept pace with the Hawks as they slipped past the Snappers 5-2. Sue Horton was the top gun for Sandri as her 343 resulted from strings of 116, 117 and 110. Randy Harper was right behind at 339 (114 and 129) with Rich Picotte at 335 (122, 107, 106). Kevin Krasnecky led the opposition with his 115 and 315. Ryan Balicki contributed 111 and 309 while Rusty Lambert totaled 307 (120 and 107). Pinfall by 64 to Sandri.

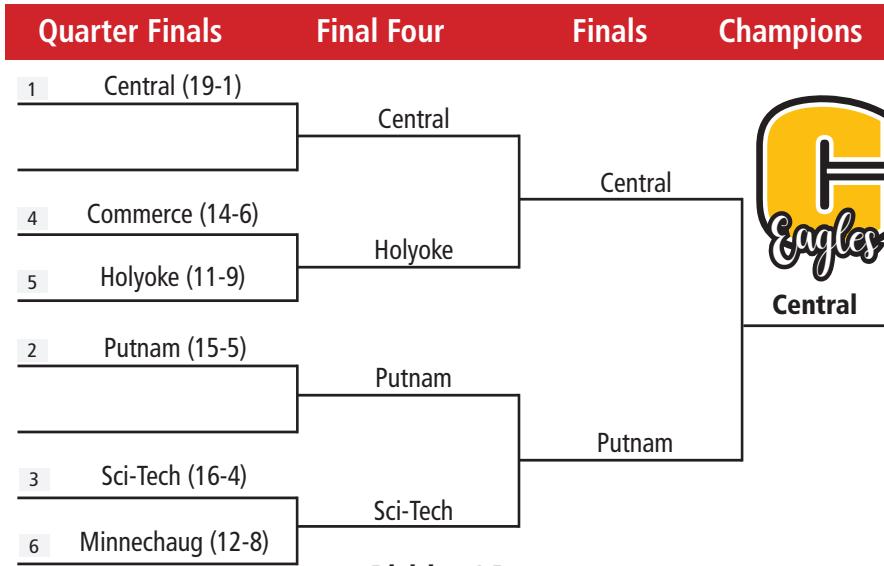
The Slow Burners surprised the Fans of Kayce Smith 5-2 by winning strings one and three. Deano Kocurz was the Burners best at 339 (111, 105, 123). Nate Orszulak added 321 (107 and 116) while Jody Orszulak chipped in with 105 and 108 singles and Scotty Radisic a 112 first. They won the third by 10 pins. Tom Clauson topped the Fans at 361 (136, 113, 112) while Mike Nicholson followed at 353 (106, 129, 118). Brian Rowe added 107 and 304. The Burners won the pinfall battle by 13 pins.

Zeke's Freaks took advantage of their 51-pin handicap to upset Roll-A-Way 5-2. In the first it was Zeke Sircard's 100 and Steve Orszulak's 106 that offset Kylie Josefiak's 117 and Dan Gauthier's 118 resulting in an eight-pin win. Zeke's took the second handily as Ryan Breen's 101 countered Phil Clough's 128. Ed Stachowicz would add a 116 third, however, Roll-A-Way would secure the points by eight as Dan's 129 and Phil's 113 would decide it. Ed topped the Freaks at 306 while Shoe led his foursome at 346 with Phil at 343 and Kylie 307. Pinfall by 29 to the Freaks.

## Western Mass. Basketball Bracketology

*Editor's Note: These brackets represent Turley Sports picks for the upcoming basketball tournaments. They are for the enjoyment of our readers. Please play along and compare your brackets to ours and see if you can pick the winners, too.*

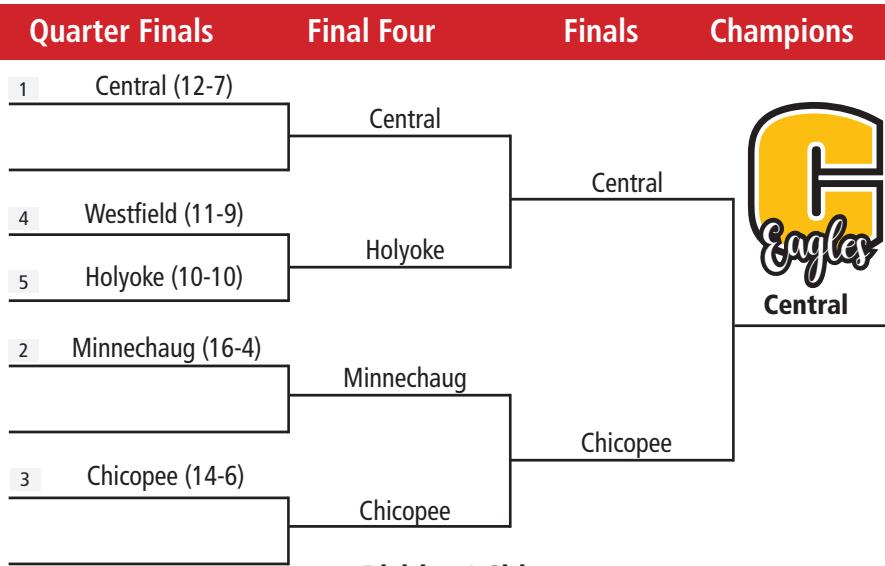
### DIVISION 1 BOYS



#### Division 1 Boys

Central had a bounce-back season after losing a few games last season. The Golden Eagles lost just once this season. Holyoke will reach the semifinals, but will fall to Central. Putnam and Sci-Tech will go at it in the other semifinal, with Putnam prevailing. Central beats Putnam in the finals.

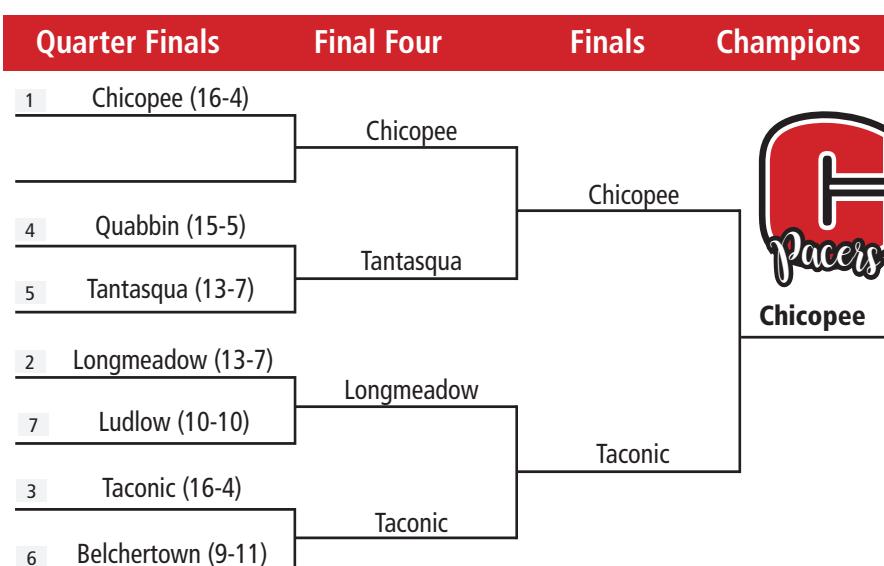
### DIVISION 1 GIRLS



#### Division 1 Girls

Central is tough to knock off, but Minnechaug managed it earlier this season. But Central has come along of late. Minnechaug had a strong season, but the injury of a top player could hurt in the playoffs. We pick Chicopee to come out and challenge Central for the title.

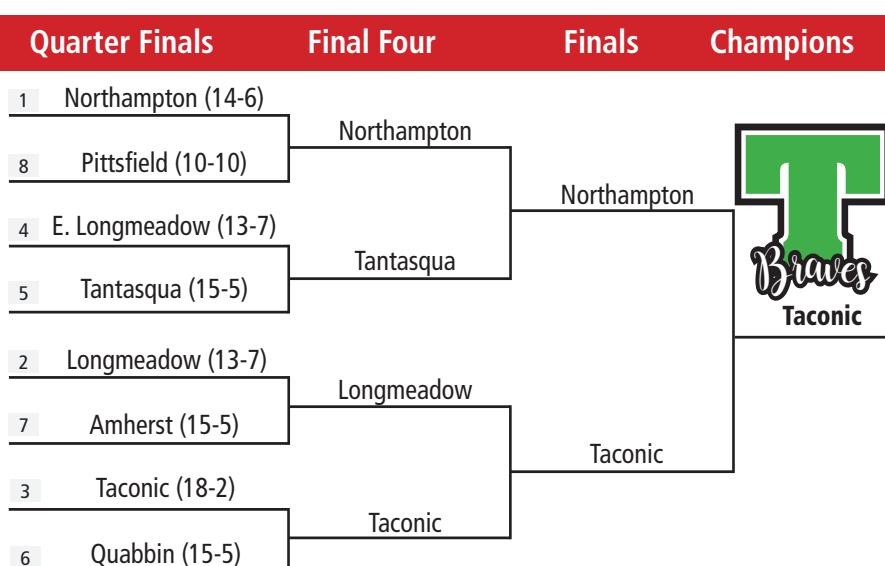
### DIVISION 2 BOYS



#### Division 2 Boys

Chicopee continues to get better and earns the top seed in the D2 tourney. We think this year will be the Pacers' year, led by 1,000-point scorer Kobe Parker. Ludlow and Belchertown will reach tournament for the first time in a while. But both will fall to more experienced playoff teams.

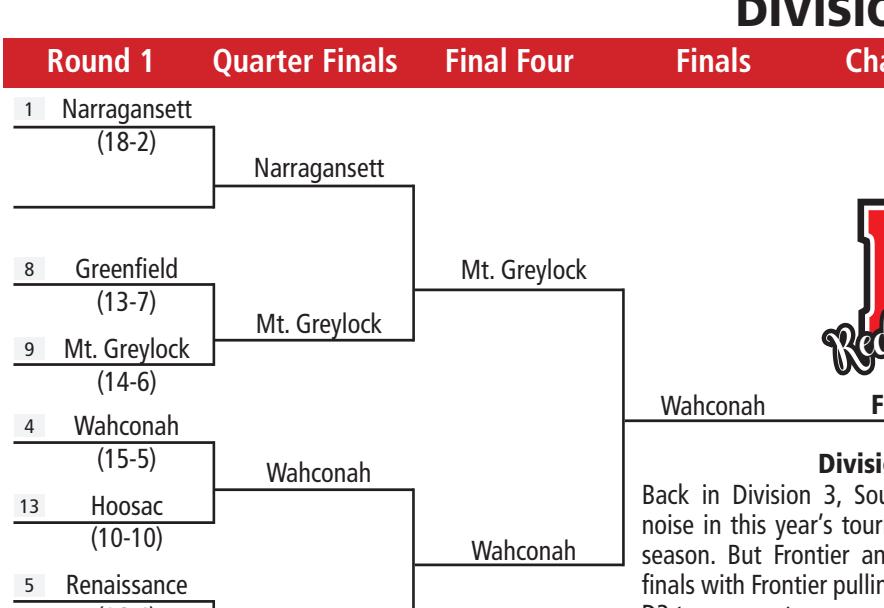
### DIVISION 2 GIRLS



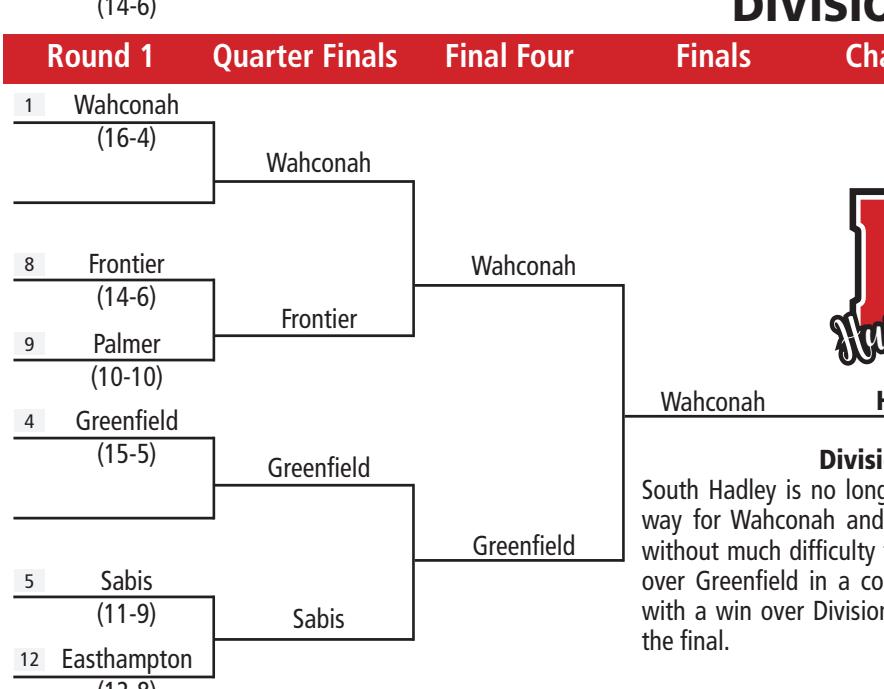
#### Division 2 Girls

Northampton will be upset in the finals by Taconic, which plays a Berkshire schedule and won 18 games this season. Quabbin and Tantasqua fall in the earlier rounds.

### DIVISION 3 BOYS

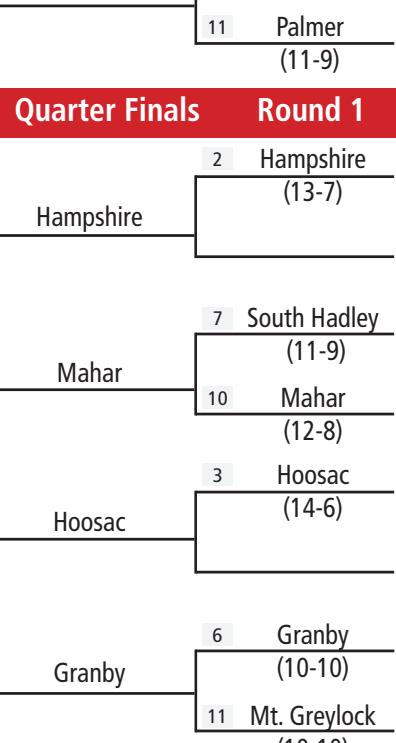
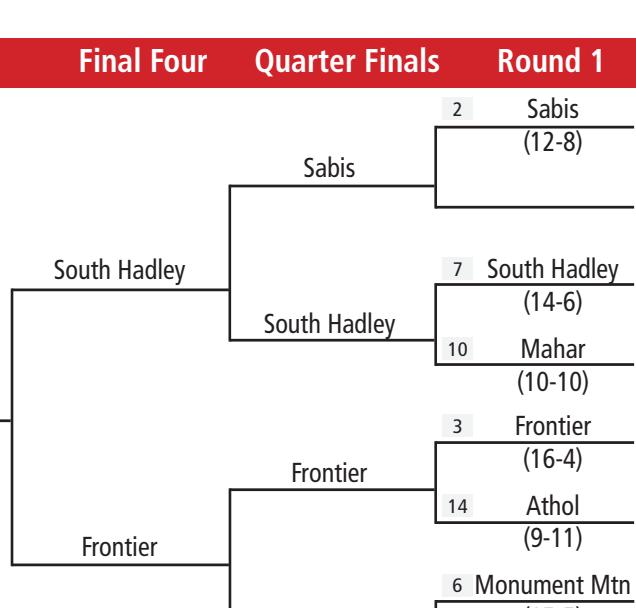


### DIVISION 3 GIRLS



#### Division 3 Girls

South Hadley is no longer the top seed, paving the way for Wahconah and Hoosac to make the finals without much difficulty this year. We pick Wahconah over Greenfield in a competitive semifinal. Hoosac, with a win over Division 1 Minnechaug, should win the final.



### HOCKEY | from page 9

team in Division 3, by one goal and we also lost 1-0 to West Springfield. I'm really looking forward to having the extra time off before our first tournament game."

The last time that the Hurricanes captured the Western Mass. Division 3A championship title was in 2016 when they defeated Chicopee Comp 3-2 in overtime.

Peritz, along with sophomore's Nick Paul and Andrew Martin were the only Palmer players to attend the regular season finale against Comp.

The other three Palmer players were on a class trip to Costa Rica. They are sophomore's Aidan Valley, Joe Freniere and Morgan Peritz.

"We were missing three of the Palmer players, who are on a class trip," Rousseau said. "Without them, we weren't able to play three lines in today's game. We were lucky to come away with the win."

The Colts finished their season with a 6-12-2 overall record and they went 1-8-1 in league play.

"We had a very young team, but it was still a very good season for us. Not many people expected us to win six games this year," said Comp head coach Brett DiClementi. "It wasn't a very close game the first time that we played against Amherst. All of the players worked very hard in today's game."

The four Colts seniors, who played in their final high school hockey game against Amherst, were Colby Spear, Johnny Lewis, Josh King, and Tanner Fournier.

Sophomore Victor Canavan is normally the Colts starting goalie, but he was in Spain on a class trip. He was replaced in goal against Amherst by his younger brother Zach, who's a freshman.

"This was Zach's second start as our goalie," DiClementi said. "He stepped in for his older brother, who's in Spain on a class trip, and played very well. They'll be a competition between the two brothers for the starting position next year."

The Colts were also missing several other players for various reasons.

After an evenly played first five minutes of the match, the Hurricanes took a 1-0 lead following an unassisted breakaway goal by sophomore Chris Foster with 6:20 remaining in the period. It was Foster's team leading 18<sup>th</sup> goal of the season.

A couple of minutes later, Foster assisted on a power-play goal by Peritz, which increased the Hurricanes lead to 2-0.

"Brandon is a lunch pail hockey player," Rousseau said. "He always does everything that the coaches ask him to do. He's a very hard worker and always puts the team before himself."

Chicopee Comp cut the deficit in half with a power-play goal of their own by sophomore David Girouard. The sophomore duo of Carson Langlois and Dylan Seymour were credited with the assists.

The Colts also had a couple of chances to tie the score during the second period, but Amherst sophomore goalie Jon Hanscom made a couple of key saves. The contest remained a one goal game until the third period.

"We did have a couple of chances during the second period, but the puck just didn't go into the net" DiClementi said. "Their goalie made a couple of great saves. We really wanted to win our final game of the season."

In the middle of the third period, Amherst junior Kouji Ishida scored a power-play goal on a breakaway. Sophomore Carter Beckwith was credited with the assist.

The Hurricanes final goal was scored by sophomore Gunyoung Choi with 6.5 seconds remaining in the match.

# Webb tournament set to take place in March

CHICOPEE — This year marks the 35th year Kevin Vann has enjoyed coaching youth basketball—and for 16 of those years, he has provided young people in Greater Springfield and Northern Connecticut with the chance to play in a competitive tournament.

As the founder of the George Webb Memorial Basketball Tournament in 2005 to honor his late friend, George Webb, who died of cancer at age 52 in 2004. A basketball player who shot hoops at the club on Tuesday evenings, Webb rarely lost a game, and, Vann said, "When he did, he showed true sportsmanship to whoever he was playing against."

"Thank you for standing with me over the past 16 years, supporting the kids of the club," he said. "I have a deep passion for basketball, yet my 35 years of coaching pales in comparison to the 108 years that the Boys & Girls Club of Chicopee has been there every day for the now 358 boys and girls of this city. They are children who desperately need encouragement, companionship, challenge and opportunity to help them grow into responsible and respected human beings."

The largest basketball tournament of its kind, the 15-day event tips off on March 13 at the club, ending on March 28. Each year, the tourney draws hundreds of spectators to watch more than 40 teams of boys and girls play.

Vann founded the George Webb Memorial Basketball Tournament in 2005 to honor his late friend, George Webb, who died of cancer at age 52 in 2004. A basketball player who shot hoops at the club on Tuesday evenings, Webb rarely lost a game, and, Vann said, "When he did, he showed true sportsmanship to whoever he was playing against."

Vann and his business, The Vann Group of Springfield, a professional services outsourcing company, have sponsored the tournament since its start. And it has been held at the club it supports since the beginning as well.

"The George Webb Basketball Tournament embodies the values of the Boys & Girls Club of Chicopee," Vann said. "It's an even competition for teams of boys and girls aged 8 to 13 who have varying abilities as ball

players."

For the second year in a row, Daishany Miller of Chicopee was named the club's Youth of the Year. To achieve the title of Youth of the Year, a club member must embody the values of leadership and service, academic excellence, and healthy lifestyles. The Youth of the Year serves as a role model for other young people in the club and as a representative to the community.

Drawn to investigate the club in 2014, Miller, 19, soon adopted it as a second home and learned how to thrive as a leader. "It takes strength to fit in and courage to stand out," Miller said. "The club is there for me and encourages me to take the steps I need to strive to be a better version of myself."

Vann said the tournament has allowed thousands of young people to experience the safe haven that is the Boys & Girls Club of Chicopee, play a sport and develop values that will last them a lifetime.

The club has a mission to fill the gap between school and home. According to a national organization called the Af-

terschool Alliance, every day, 362,312 children in Massachusetts leave school with nowhere to go with an adult present.

The club offers activities, resources, supportive relationships with peers and adults and programs that can be life-changing, and it served 1,802 young people last year; 358 were members, and the other 1,444 were served through community outreach programs.

The Boys & Girls Club of Chicopee has two locations in town and is staffed by 30 adults and 50 volunteers.

Seventy-one percent of those who are nurtured at the club are 12 and younger; the others are teenagers. Of the total served, 69 percent are in minority ethnic groups and 32 percent are in single-parent households.

For more information about the tournament, visit [bgchicopee.org/george-webb-memorial-basketball-tournament/](http://bgchicopee.org/george-webb-memorial-basketball-tournament/). For information on sponsorship opportunities, visit [georgewebbtournament.com](http://georgewebbtournament.com) or contact Ruth Griggs at (413) 727-3354 or email her at [ruth@rccoms.com](mailto:ruth@rccoms.com).

## PALMER | from page 9

Palmer (10-10) clinched a berth in the postseason tournament for the first time in two years with a home win versus Central Division rival Ludlow on February 14. They wound up losing their final two regular season games.

"One of our players played limited minutes in tonight's game because of an injury and two others are in Costa Rica on a class trip," said Palmer co-head coach Amanda Theriault. "Other than (sophomore) Madalyn Theriault, we played with mostly younger players in tonight's game. They don't have very much varsity experience."

The Lady Panthers injured player is junior Jill Lombardi, who didn't score any points against South Hadley.

Junior Kendall Levasseur and sophomore Mia Murray were on the class trip to Costa Rica.

Maddy Theriault led the Lady Panthers with a game-high 21 points. She has scored 20 or more points six times during the regular season, including a season-high 31 points in the season opening home win versus Maher Regional.

Junior Madison Cole and eighth grader Saige Youngberg both finished the game with six points for the Lady Panthers. Freshman Vanessa Baer added five points off the bench.



Giamory'a McTier rises above the fray to grab the rebound.



Madison Cole breaks as she finds an opening.

Feb. 5.

South Hadley put a total of nine players in the scoring column against Palmer. Four of those players reached double figures.

Sophomore Olivia Marion led the Lady Tigers with 15 points, while junior Katelyn Walas and sophomore Talia Uribe scored 11 points. Freshman Alex Jackson scored five points in each half leading to her 10 points.

"We had four players score in double figures, which is very nice to see," Dubuc. "I also thought we moved the ball around well on offense and we also played very well defensively. Everyone made a contribution."

The Lady Panthers made their second trip to Deerfield this winter. They celebrated a 53-42 non-league victory at Frontier on

in tonight's win."

The Lady Tigers held their opponents to fewer than 45 points in the last three regular season games.

The first quarter was very close as the largest lead either South Hadley or Palmer had was three points.

The Lady Tigers entered the second quarter with a 10-9 advantage, but they never looked back after that.

A little more than two minutes into the second stanza, a Jackson 3-pointer from the right side capped off an 11-2 run giving the visiting team a 19-9 lead.

A lay-up by Youngberg closed the gap to 19-12 with 4:55 remaining in the first half.

The Lady Tigers, who lead by as many as 14 points during the final three minutes of the first half, held a 30-20 halftime lead.

Theriault, who scored 11 points after halftime, began the second half with a made free throw and a put-back hoop, but the Lady Panthers couldn't get any closer than seven points the rest of the way.

With a minute remaining in the third quarter, a fast-break lay-up by junior Paige Marjanski (6 points) gave the Lady Tigers a commanding 47-32 lead.

South Hadley, who continued to pull away during the fourth quarter, closed out the contest with a 13-4 run. Marion scored five of those points.

# Turleysports

## Athlete of the Week

### Mia Krupczak

Monson High School



Krupczak finished the regular season with a 15-point performance for Monson in a win over Baystate. To nominate someone for Athlete of the Week, contact Managing Sports Editor Gregory A. Scibelli at 413-283-8393 ext. 258 or send an e-mail to [gscibelli@turley.com](mailto:gscibelli@turley.com).

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## TANTASQUA | from page 9

senior night, but he has been injured all year. He had shown up to every practice and was at every game for Quaboag this year. It speaks to his team leadership and his want to be there, even if he couldn't participate due to injury.

"I didn't know what we were going to do, until the players asked me if we could put him in for a few seconds," head coach Chris Reilly said after the game. "Adam was looking for the last ten seconds or something. I didn't know how we were going to do it and in a safe manner."

Reilly was fearful of making the injury worse for Bolaske, the crowd wanted to honor their beloved senior.

In the end, Bolaske did get into the game based on a suggestion from a Tantasqua head coach, Scott Dion. "He came up with that idea in the last minute. That was a class act. I didn't even think it was a possibility. He was the one that suggested that in that moment" Reilly said.

The score was lopsided enough that Adam was able to get into the game to thunderous applause. He was given the ball, and both teams allowed him to head to the basket and get one last score in for his h i g h s c h o o l



Photos by Jack Cascio NEAP.smugmug.com

Deshean Hutchinson delivers the defense.

basketball career.

"He is a good shooter. Even though he missed that lay-up. He was laughing too," said Reilly.

It was a moment bigger than the competition happening on the court, and Tantasqua Head coach Scott Dion was all for it.

"I live in this district. I've known Adam since he was a little guy. I would let him go up and down the court all day long. It's a great moment for him and his family. It's well deserved because he's a great kid," Dion said after the game.

On Wednesday, it was less about the basketball game going on, and more about honoring someone who really deserved the honors. There are moments that are bigger than the competition, and this was truly one of them.

## MIAA | from page 9

starting next year, and then state tournaments, if they are voted through for the fall 2021, would be ranked using MaxPreps.

One of many questions brought up during various informational meetings and discussions about the proposal is how exactly MaxPreps will rank the teams. However the rankings system is not made very clear. Coaches and athletic directors will be required to enter win-loss and result information to the MaxPreps website, but the formula to determine rankings is "proprietary" and is not being disclosed publicly, leaving athletic directors with questions about whether the system will be fair to teams throughout the state.

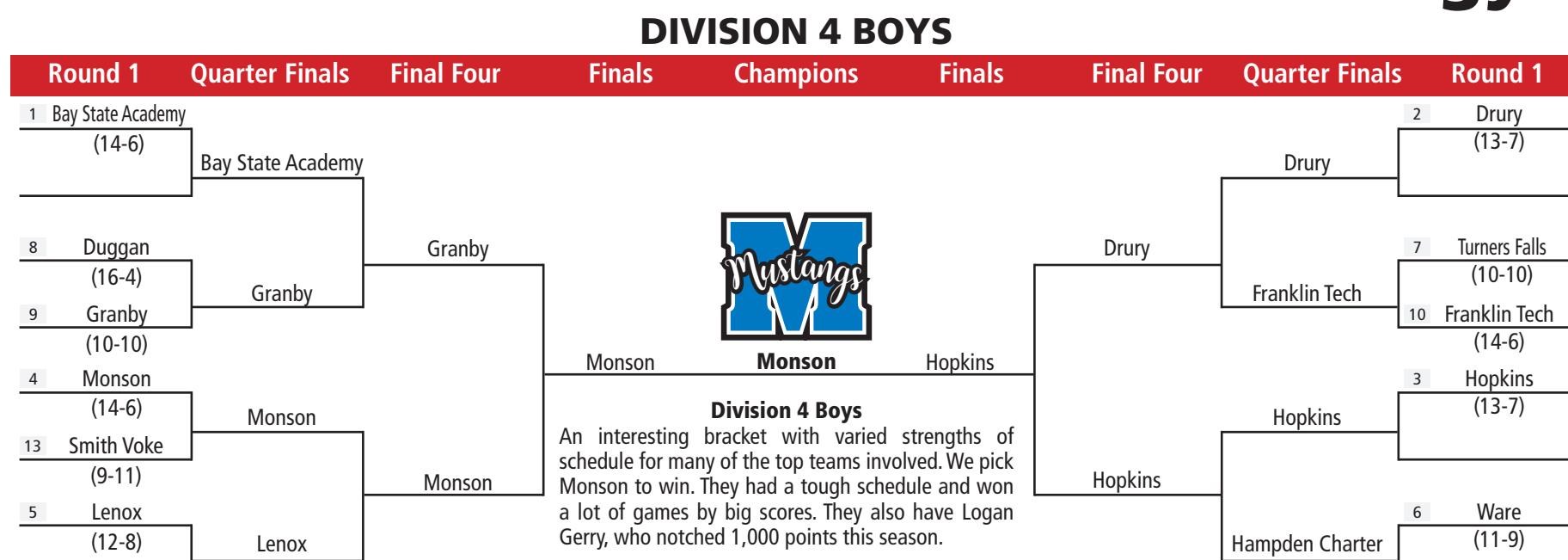
Unlike the eastern side of the state, many teams in Western Mass. are disbursed into leagues with teams in multiple divisions. The Walker system takes that format into account.

The meeting is scheduled to begin at 9:45 p.m. The MIAA will hear a final presentation from the Tournament Management Committee and will hear from speakers. According to the press release from the MIAA, speakers will have limited time to speak, and wish for points not to be repeated to keep the discussion moving.

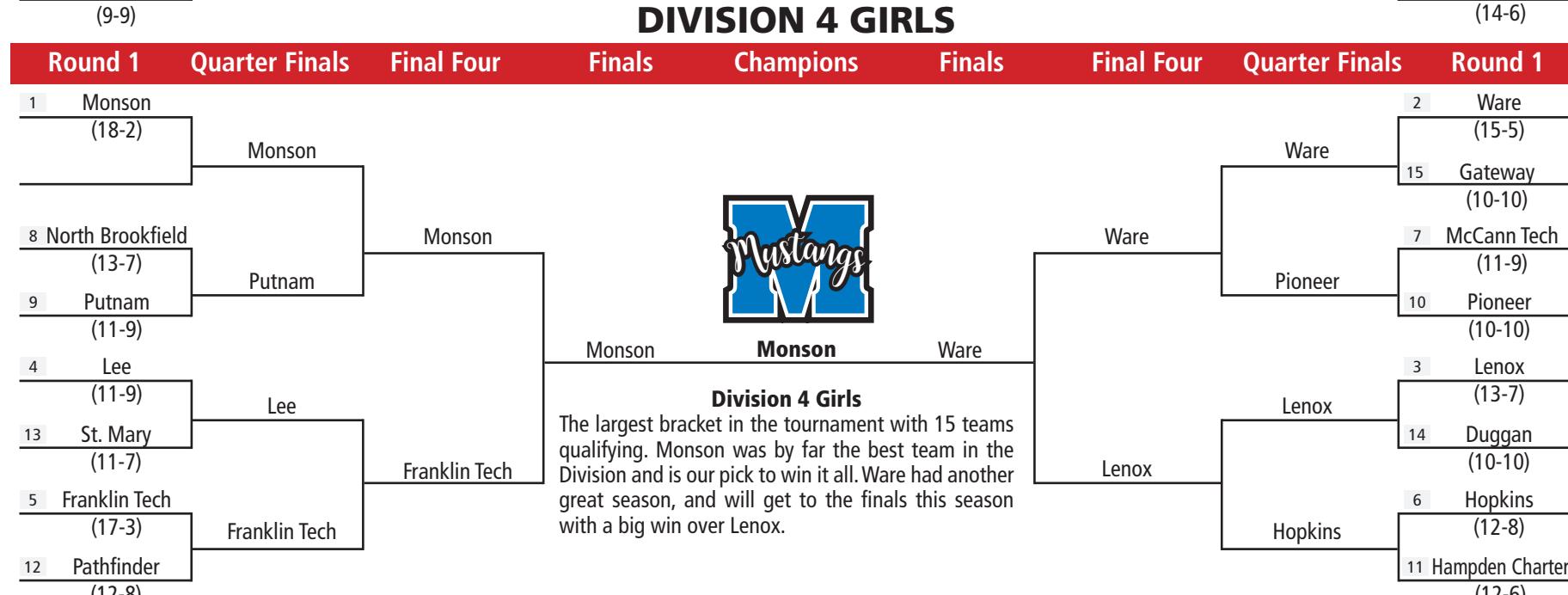
A final vote is expected to take place just before 11 a.m. Each member school will have one vote, which will come from the member school's principal or their designee, an athletic director in some cases.

# Western Mass. Basketball Bracketology

## DIVISION 4 BOYS



## DIVISION 4 GIRLS



## DEATH NOTICES

**Rooney, James P.**  
Died Feb. 17, 2020  
There will be no calling hours

**Robert, Leona M.**  
Died Feb. 18, 2020  
Services are private  
Lombard Funeral Home  
Monson

**Smith, Sandra E.**  
Died Feb. 19, 2020  
Memorial Service Feb. 28, 2020  
Beers & Story Palmer Funeral Home  
Palmer

## OBITUARIES

## Leona M. Robert

MONSON — Leona M. Robert, 84, passed away Feb. 18, 2020, with family at her side. Leona was born June 30, 1935, in Cornwall, Vermont, to the late Norman O. Lowell, Sr and Kathleen B. (Fey) Lowell. She has been a resident of Monson for many years. Leona was a senior billing clerk in the Pediatrics Department at Baystate Medical Center where she retired after 30 years. She also worked in the Billing Office at Wing Memorial Hospital, from which she retired after 18 years. Leona loved her lottery scratch tickets and had a love of all animals, especially cats and birds. She enjoyed floral arranging, auctions and gar-



dening. Most of all, she loved the Red Sox and watched all of the games faithfully. But Leona's greatest love was her family.

Leona was predeceased by her husband, George E. Robert. She leaves her daughters, Cynthia L. Shoum, Lauri A. Lewinski and Lisa Robert; granddaughter, Krystle M. Shoum and her husband, Glenn Busch; great granddaughters, Addison and McKenzie Shoum; nieces, Donna Graveline, Jaclyn Santucci, Nancy Plant and Tracy Theodore; nephews, Michael Robert and James Low-

ell; her sister-in-laws Donna Lowell and Susan Lowell; as well as many loving great nieces and nephews. Leona was predeceased by her brothers, Norman Lowell, Jr, Irving Lowell and Everett Lowell; as well as her nephew, John Robert.

Services are private. Memorial contributions may be made to an animal charity of the donor's choice. For on line condolences please visit [www.lombardfuneralhome.com](http://www.lombardfuneralhome.com).

## James Patrick Rooney

PALMER — James Patrick Rooney of Palmer died on President's Day, Feb. 17, after a brief but brave battle with pancreatic cancer.

The son of the late Davitt M. and Elizabeth (Wlodyka) Rooney, he was raised in Palmer where he practiced law a few blocks from where he grew up. A graduate of the high school at St. Thomas Seminary in Bloomfield, Connecticut, he received his bachelor of arts degree from St. Anselm College, Manchester, New Hampshire, and his law degree from Columbia Law School in New York.

Rooney excelled in school, earning statewide distinction as a Latin scholar and serving as president of his class on several occasions. He enjoyed academics and the social dimension of school; his Columbia Law yearbook features him holding court in the coffee shop, which it describes as "his office." A grandson of immigrants from Ireland and Poland, Rooney had the gift of gab and spoke fluent Polish.

He practiced in Springfield with the firm of Moriarty, Dono-



ghue and Leja, and began his own practice in Palmer in the early 1970s. He represented and advised many clients and enjoyed advocating for causes that contributed to the betterment of his home area.

Rooney served as the first district court prosecutor for Palmer, Monson and Wilbraham in the late 1960s. He also served on the Hampden County Bar Association executive board for many years and was elected as its president in the mid-1990s, the only lawyer from the eastern part of the county to hold that position.

A past member of several local civic and fraternal organizations, Rooney was an informal local contact and go-to for several elected officials. He was appointed by Senator Kennedy to serve on the U.S. District Court Nominating Committee during the Carter Administration, and he also served with the 104th Tactical Fighter Group, Mass

Rooney loved politics and history, cars, and science and nature, and had an encyclopedic memory that enabled him to dispatch with the Sunday New York Times crossword puzzles each week with ease.

Above all, he enjoyed spending time with his family and friends and conversing with all of those whom he encountered in daily life.

He leaves his wife Marcia, his son James Davitt Rooney and daughter-in-law Tara Levine of Dover, and his grandsons Joshua and Matthew. Rooney is also survived by his brother Thomas and nieces and a nephew. His brother Kevin predeceased him.

According to his wishes, there were no calling hours. If you wish, memorial donations may be made to Columbia Law School, Development and Alumni Relations, 435 West 116th St., Box A-2, New York, New York, 10027.

Heon served in Springfield with the firm of Moriarty, Dono-

## Sandra E. Smith

WALES — Sandra E. Smith, 62, of Wales, passed away peacefully on Feb. 19, 2020, at her dear friend's home in Palmer. She was born on March 5, 1957 in Newton, Massachusetts, daughter of late Warren and Elizabeth (Page) Smith, beloved sister to Warren A. Smith, and beloved niece to Sharon Smith.

Sandy worked as an LPN for the state of Massachusetts where she formed amazing friendships with her co-workers at the QVP



program. She had a love for life and animals, and worked with the Second Chance Animal Shelter in her effort to help with feral cats. In her leisure, Sandy enjoyed gardening, helping others and spending time at the beach with her family in Scituate.

Calling hours will be held on Friday, Feb. 28, from 2 to 4

p.m. followed by a memorial service at 4 p.m. at the Beers & Story Funeral Home in Palmer.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Second Chance Animal Shelter in East Brookfield. For more information or to sign the online guest book, please visit [www.beersandstory.com](http://www.beersandstory.com)

## OBITUARY POLICY

Turley Publications offers two types of obituaries. One is a free, brief **Death Notice** listing the name of deceased, date of death and funeral date and place.

The other is a **Paid Obituary**, costing \$100, which allows families to publish extended death notice information of their own choice and may include a photograph. **Death Notices & Paid Obituaries** should be submitted through a funeral home to: [obits@turley.com](mailto:obits@turley.com).

Exceptions will be made only when the family provides a death certificate and must be pre-paid.

## The family of the late Joseph J. Nietupski

wish to express their deep appreciation to those who have offered such kindness, support and messages of sympathy and comfort in our bereavement.

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
County of Hampden  
The Superior Court  
CIVIL DOCKET  
#2079CV00058**  
**RE: Webster First Federal Credit Union vs Eagle Pass Camp, LLC, et al**  
**ORDER OF NOTICE BY PUBLICATION**  
**TO: Eagle Pass Camp, LLC and David S Chapin, of Wales; In the County of Hampden; all in said Commonwealth;**  
**AND TO ALL PERSONS ENTITLED TO**

**THE BENEFIT OF THE SERVICE MEMBERS' CIVIL RELIEF ACT OF 1940 AS AMENDED 2003**  
as amended:  
**Webster First Federal Credit Union, of Worcester, Worcester County**  
claiming to be the holder of mortgage covering Walker Road, Wales, MA  
given by Eagle Pass Camp, LLC and David S Chapin to Webster First Federal Credit Union dated July 8, 2016 recorded in Hampden County Registry of Deeds Book 21258, Page

## Police/Fire

## Police Logs

## PALMER

*Court and are innocent until proven guilty.*

## Saturday, Feb. 22

Cassidy M. Laramee, 23, of 58 Congree Ave. #1L, Holyoke, was arrested at 12:39 a.m. in Three Rivers on charges of operating under

the influence of liquor; no inspection sticker; and operating an unregistered motor vehicle.

Michael A. Sparks, 28, of 1305 S. Main St., Palmer, was arrested at 5:38 p.m. on South Main Street in Palmer, on a warrant.

## Fire Logs

## PALMER

The department returned to service at 7:56 a.m.

On Thursday, Feb. 13, at 5:37 p.m., the department responded to Jim Ash Road for a structure fire. The department returned to service at 8:45 p.m.

On Wednesday, Feb. 19, at 6:23 p.m., the department responded to a motor vehicle accident on North Main Street. The department returned to service at 7:10 p.m.

On Thursday, Feb. 20, at 2:39 p.m., the department provided public assistance on Fletcher Street. The department returned to service at 3:01 p.m.

On Friday, Feb. 21, at 5:59 a.m., the department provided medical assistance on Orchard Street. The department returned to service at 6:27 a.m.

On Friday, Feb. 21, at 12:12 p.m., the department responded to a lockout on South Main Street. The department returned to service at 12:40 p.m.

On Friday, Feb. 21, at 2:28 p.m., the department provided to medical assistance on Baptist Hill Road. The department returned to service at 2:57 p.m.

On Saturday, Feb. 22, at 4:12 p.m., the department responded to a structure fire on Beebe Road in Monson. The department returned to service at 5:40 p.m.

On Saturday, Feb. 22, at 10:32 p.m., the department responded to a call that was dispatched and cancelled en route on Berkshire Street. The department returned to service at 10:53 p.m.

On Sunday, Feb. 23, at 11:22 a.m., the department provided medical assistance on Pleasant Street. The department returned to service at 11:45 a.m.

On Monday, Feb. 24, at 5:08 p.m., the department responded to an unauthorized burning on Grove Street. The department returned to service at 5:18 p.m.

On Monday, Feb. 24, at 5:58 p.m., the department responded to a call that was dispatched and cancelled en route on Olney Road. The department returned to service at 6:03 p.m.

On Tuesday, Feb. 25, at 8:29 a.m., the department responded to a chimney fire on Sykes Street. The department returned to service at 9:40 a.m.

On Wednesday, Feb. 26, at 3:53 p.m., the department responded to State and Main Street for a motor vehicle accident with injury and fluid spill. The department returned to service at 4:20 p.m.

On Thursday, Feb. 27, at 4:28 a.m., the department responded to an EMS incident on Palmer Road. The department returned to service at 4:45 a.m.

On Friday, Feb. 28, at 2:00 p.m., the department responded to a brush fire on Burlingame Road. The department returned to service at 3:48 p.m.

## THREE RIVERS

*The Three Rivers Fire Department responded to a total of four calls from Feb. 18 through Feb. 25.*

On Tuesday, Feb. 18, at 8:29 a.m., the department responded to a chimney fire on Sykes Street. The department returned to service at 9:40 a.m.

On Wednesday, Feb. 19, at 10:42 p.m., the department provided assistance 68 Butler Rd. The department returned to service at 11:18 p.m.

On Thursday, Feb. 20, at 3:40 a.m., the department responded to 7 Bliss St. for an active fire alarm. The department returned to service at 4:15 a.m.

On Friday, Feb. 21, at 2:55 p.m., the department responded to 8 Whitney Ave. to assist an ambulance. The department returned to service at 4:30 p.m.

On Saturday, Feb. 22, at 8:25 a.m., the department provided public assistance on 68 Butler Rd. The department returned to service at 8:55 a.m.

On Saturday, Feb. 22, at 4:04 p.m., the department responded to 111 Beebe Rd. for a structure fire. The department returned to service at 7:56 p.m.

On Monday, Feb. 23, at 7:25 a.m., the department provided public assistance on 68 Butler Rd. The department returned to service at 7:55 a.m.

On Monday, Feb. 23, at 11:40 p.m., the department responded to 7 Bliss St. for an activated fire alarm. The department returned to service at 12:15 a.m.

## STCC's veterinary assistant training program starts March 2

SPRINGFIELD — Registration is open for Springfield Technical Community College's veterinary assistant training program, which begins March 2.

The course runs through August, with classes meeting Mondays and Thursdays, 9 a.m. to noon. Elliot Levy, senior director of the Workforce Development Center at STCC, encourages prospective students not to

delay registration since space is limited.

The training prepares students to keep animals healthy, care for them when they are ill and assist veterinarians in their offices.

Veterinary assistants work directly under the supervision of veterinarians and the veterinary technician as they perform procedures, examinations and treatments. They provide basic care for animals, such as feeding and exercising the animals, while learning how to recognize signs of illness and disease, performing laboratory procedures, interacting with clients, and performing general office procedures.

Veterinary assistants work in animal hospitals and clinics, animal shelters, laboratories, zoos, and animal parks.

The training marks the first step toward getting a start in a field where the jobs are in high demand. According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, veterinary assistant jobs are expected to grow 19 percent between 2018 and 2028, which is much faster than the average for all occupations.

For more information and to enroll online, visit [stcc.edu/wdc/descriptions/veterinary-assistant](http://stcc.edu/wdc/descriptions/veterinary-assistant). To contact the Workforce Development Center Office, call 413-755-4225.

More notices on page 14

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ZONING ENFORCEMENT  
OFFICER

Looking for a reliable Building Inspector/Zoning Enforcement Officer. For application and more information please visit [www.wilbraham-ma.gov](http://www.wilbraham-ma.gov). Application deadline 3/27/2020 at 4:30 PM. EOE

United Personnel  
UNITED PERSONNEL IS

seeking 2nd shift Trimming Operators for Sanderson Macleod in Palmer. Ideal candidates have longevity in their work history and ability to work in a fast-paced environment. This is a great opportunity to get in on the ground level. Please call (413)736-0800 for more information

## REAL ESTATE

## FOR RENT

EQUAL HOUSING  
OPPORTUNITY

**ALL REAL ESTATE** advertised herein is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act, which makes it illegal to advertise "any preference, limitation, or discrimination because of race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status, or national origin, or intention to make any such preference, limitation, or discrimination." We will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. All persons are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised are available on an equal opportunity basis.

## REAL ESTATE

HILLSIDE VILLAGE  
APARTMENTSAPPLICATIONS NOW BEING  
ACCEPTED FOR ONE, TWO  
AND THREE BEDROOM  
APARTMENTS

• Heat and hot water included

• Ample Closets

• Fully Appliance

• Community Room

• Laundry Facilities

• Cats Welcome

• Extra Storage

• 24 Hour Maintenance

For Information call  
(413)967-7755 EHO

17 Convent Hill, Ware, MA



## REAL ESTATE

## BONDSVILLE 2.5 BR DUPLEX

New appliances/ faucets, w/d in bathroom, new vinyl floors, vanity fixtures, hardwood floors/ laminate, fresh, neutral paint, new furnace, off-street parking, corner/ private yd/ deck, 1/2 basement/ shelving. 10 minutes to MA Pike. No smoking/ pets. Available 4/1 \$1100/mo **\$207-524-8008**

## BROOKFIELD 1 BR 2 BD 1 FL

off-street parking, \$580/ mo + utilities. Must have good rental history **413-262-5082**

## SECTION 8 WELCOME

2 bedroom apts. new kitchen, bath, paint, flooring, appliances, etc. Available ASAP **(413)531-1217**

## WARREN 4 ROOM, 2 BR 2D 1FL

appliances included, off-street parking, large yard, quiet neighborhood. No Pets. \$800/ mo 1st, last, **508-248-6229**, cell **774-289-2360**

## REAL ESTATE

## WEST BROOKFIELD RENOVATED

2 BR apt. close to town. Laundry/ parking, \$900/ mo., utilities not included. Available March 1st. **978-479-1830**

COMMERCIAL  
RENTALS

## OFFICE/ RETAIL SPACE

Prime location office/ retail space at the corner of Main St. and South St. Approximately 700 sq. ft. with propane heat and Mens/ Ladies room. \$450 per month.

**413-967-7772**

Find your  
dream  
home or  
list your  
property  
here!

## REAL ESTATE

## STORAGE

**COLD STORAGE APPROXIMATELY** 2,000 sq. ft. in the center of Ware. Call **413-967-7772** \$300 per month.

## SECURE STORAGE HAS

opened a brand new facility in Ware behind the Ware Post Office. Call for all your storage needs and our low rates. **413-531-3722**

VACATION  
RENTALS

## WARM WEATHER IS

Year Round In Aruba. The water is safe, and the dining is fantastic. Walk out to the beach. 3-Bedroom weeks available. Sleeps 8. Email: carolacton@aol.com for more information.

## REAL ESTATE

## FOR RENT



All real estate advertising in this newspaper is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act of 1968, which makes it illegal to advertise any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status (number of children and/or pregnancy), national origin, ancestry, age, marital status, or any intention to make any such preference, limitation or discrimination.

This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate that is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertising in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis. To complain about discrimination call The Department of Housing and Urban Development "HUD" toll-free at 1-800-660-9777. For the N.E. area, call HUD at 617-565-5308. The toll free number for the hearing impaired is 1-800-927-9275.

Classified  
Advertising  
DEADLINESQUABBIN &  
SUBURBAN  
FRIDAY  
AT NOONHILLTOWNS  
MONDAY  
AT NOON

More notices on page 12

## Public Notices

## LEGAL NOTICE

In accordance with Chapter 40A, M.G.L. s11, the Monson Planning Board will hold a Public Hearing **TUESDAY, MARCH 17, 2020 at 7:05 P.M.** in the public meeting room, Town Office Building, 110 Main Street, on the application of Vertex Tower Assets, LLC for a Special Permit as provided by Section 6.14, Wireless Communications Facilities Regulations of the Monson Zoning Bylaws. The applicant proposes to install a 100' tall monopole style wireless communications tower at 94 Cote Rd, Monson, MA, Map 052, Parcel 028, owned by Ronald P. Ouimet & Amy S. Ouimet, in the Rural Residential district. A copy of the application is on file with the Planning Board and available for viewing during regular office hours.

**Craig Schweitzer, Chairman**  
2/27, 3/05/2020

## PUBLIC NOTICE

## TOWN OF MONSON

Vertex Tower Assets, LLC (the "Applicant") has applied for a Special Permit from the Town of Monson Planning Board and Variance from the Town of Monson Zoning Board to construct a Wireless Communications Facility including a 100' tall monopole style tower at 94 Cote Road, Monson, MA 01057, Tax Assessor's Parcel 52-28. The Applicant will conduct a Visual Demonstration to illustrate the location and height of the proposed Facility by raising a balloon at and to the height of the proposed Facility. Said Visual Demonstration will be held **SATURDAY MARCH 7, 2020 from 12:00 noon to 3:00 p.m.**, weather and wind conditions permitting. In the event of inclement weather on March 7, 2020, the Visual Demonstration will be rescheduled until Sunday March 8, 2020, wind and weather conditions permitting. In the event of inclement weather on March 7, 2020 and March 8, 2020, the Visual Demonstration will be rescheduled until Saturday, March 14, 2020 or Sunday March 15, 2020, wind and weather conditions permitting. If you have any questions concerning said Visual Demonstration, please contact the Town of Monson Planning Board, 413-267-4111 OR Francis D. Parisi, Esq., Parisi Law Associates, P.C., PHONE: (401) 447-8500, EMAIL: [fparsi@plapc.com](mailto:fparsi@plapc.com). Please check the Town of Monson website [monson.ma.gov](http://monson.ma.gov) after noon on the day before the scheduled date(s) to determine if the balloon will be up the following day.

2/20, 2/27/2020

2/13, 2/20, 2/27/2020

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
The Trial Court  
Hampden Probate and Family Court  
50 State Street  
Springfield, MA 01103  
(413)748-7758**

**Docket No. HD18P0555EA**

**Estate of:  
Jean Denton**

**Date of Death: 02/25/2018**

**CITATION ON PETITION FOR ORDER OF COMPLETE SETTLEMENT**

A Petition for Order of Complete Settlement has been filed by **Laurie R. Denton** of Arlington VA

requesting that the court enter a formal Decree of Complete Settlement including the allowance of a final account, a determination of testacy and heirs at law and other such relief as may be requested in said mortgage, TO WIT:

A certain parcel of land with the buildings thereon, situated on the westerly side of Polly Road in Wales, Hampden County, Massachusetts, shown as Lot 5 on a "Plan of property surveyed for Richard A. Washburn and Ruth J. Washburn, Trustees for the Michael Todd Matteson & Timothy Russell Matteson located on Polly Road, Massachusetts" by Jalbot Engineering Inc. dated May 21, 1987 and recorded with the Hampden County Registry of Deeds in Plan Book 248, Page 87 and 88. For title reference see Deed recorded in Book 18841, 527. For mortgagor(s)' title see deed recorded with Hampden County Registry of Deeds in Book 18983, Page 93. These premises will be sold and conveyed subject to and with the benefit of all rights, rights of way, restrictions, easements, covenants, liens or claims in the nature of liens, improvements, public assessments, any and all unpaid taxes, tax titles, tax liens, water and sewer liens and any other municipal assessments or liens or existing encumbrances of record which are in force and are applicable, having priority over said mortgage, whether or not reference to such restrictions, easements, improvements, liens or encumbrances is made in the deed.

**TERMS OF SALE:** A deposit of Five Thousand (\$5,000.00) Dollars by certified or bank check will be required to be paid by the purchaser at the time and place of sale. The balance is to be paid by certified or bank check at Harmon Law Offices, P.C., 150 California St., Newton, Massachusetts 02458, or by mail to P.O. Box 610389, Newton Highlands, Massachusetts 02461-0389, within thirty (30) days from the date of sale. Deed will be provided to purchaser for recording upon receipt in full of the purchase price. The description of the premises contained in said mortgage shall control in the event of an error in this publication.

**Other terms, if any, to be announced at the sale.**

**WELLS FARGO BANK, N.A.** Present holder of said mortgage

By its Attorneys,

**HARMON LAW OFFICES, P.C.**

150 California St.

Newton, MA 02458

(617)558-0500 11075

**at 10:00 a.m.** All prospective respondents **must attend** the mandatory pre-bid conference. **Sealed responses to this RFQ must be received by 2 p.m. on Friday, March 27, 2020** at 43 Margaret Street, Monson, MA 01057.

**Cheryl Clarke  
Superintendent  
Monson Public Schools**

2/27/2020

## LEGAL NOTICE

Industrial Tower and Wireless, LLC is proposing to voluntarily register an existing wireless telecommunications facility located at 668 Old Warren Road, Palmer, MA in Hampden County. The existing facility consists of a 150-foot lattice tower within a 80' x 80' fenced in compound. The tower does not require lighting per FAA Study 2020-ANE-314-OE. Any interested persons may review the application by going to the website: [www.fcc.gov/asr/applications](http://www.fcc.gov/asr/applications) and entering the **Form 854 File Number**. Any interested party that believes that this existing antenna structure causes a significant impact on the quality of human environment, may submit an environmental request by going to the following website: [www.fcc.gov/asr/environmentalrequest](http://www.fcc.gov/asr/environmentalrequest). The mailing address for interested parties that would prefer to file a Request for Environmental Review by paper copy: **FCC Requests for Environmental Review, Attn: Ramon Williams, 445 12th Street SW, Washington, DC 20554**.

Any interested party will have 30 days after issuance of this notice to make an environmental request. **This notice is in reference to file number A1158119.**

2/27/2020

REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS (RFQ):  
ENERGY AND WATER CONSERVATION PROJECTS

The Monson Public School District issues this Request for Qualifications (RFQ), pursuant to 225 CRM 19.00, from qualified energy management service companies (ESCOs) interested in implementing a comprehensive, performance-based, Energy Conservation Project with guaranteed energy savings at its buildings and facilities. The Awarding Authority intends to select and enter into an Energy Management Services Contract with the most highly qualified provider per the evaluation criteria herein.

The Request for Qualifications (RFQ) may be obtained electronically on or after February 26, 2020. Please contact Cheryl Clarke, Superintendent/ Business Manager at [clarkec@monsonschools.com](mailto:clarkec@monsonschools.com). Hard copies of the RFQ will not be made available.

**A Pre-Qualification Conference and Tour of the Facility(s)** will be held at 43 Margaret St., MA, on March 17, 2020

## MONSON CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Under the requirements of M.G.L. Chapt. 131, s.40, the Monson Conservation Commission will hold a public hearing on **Wednesday March 11, 2020 at 7:05 P.M.** in the Public Meeting Room, Town Office Building, 110 Main St. Under consideration is construction of a SFH and associated work on Lot 6, Main Street, Map 116, Parcel 7-J. The proposed work is within the Riverfront Resource Area. Nate Olson of Four Seasons Realty Development, LLC filed the notice.

Submitted by:

Monson Conservation Commission

2/27/2020

## NOTICE OF MORTGAGEE'S SALE OF REAL ESTATE

Premises: 13 Green Street, Monson, Massachusetts

By virtue and in execution of the Power of Sale given by Edward

**Other terms to be announced at the sale.**

WELLS FARGO BANK, N.A.

Present holder of said mortgage

By its Attorneys,

**HARMON LAW OFFICES, P.C.**

150 California St.

Newton, MA 02458

(617)558-0500 11075

## Marinosci Law Group, P.C.

275 West Natick Road,

Suite 500

Warwick, RI 02886

Attorney for

# Community CALENDAR

E-mail items to [dfarmer@turley.com](mailto:dfarmer@turley.com) or mail to Calendar Editor, Journal Register, 24 Water St., Palmer, MA 01069, for receipt by Monday of week for publication.

## NOW

### INTERESTED IN QUILTING?

The Quaboag Valley Quilters Guild is looking for new members. The Guild meets on the 1st, 3rd, and 5th Thursdays of the month at 1 p.m. in the basement of the Palmer Historical and Cultural Center, 2072 Main St., Three Rivers. The Guild is a no pressure group with varying degrees of accomplishments, from novice to Big E "Best In Show" winners. The membership fee is \$48 a year. For more information, contact Barbara Beaulieu at 267-4044 or Merry Mombourquette at 283-7577. Follow us on Facebook.

**CHURCH CABOOSE THRIFT SHOP** at Second Congregational Church, 1080 Pleasant St., Palmer has bargains on clothing, household items, linens, books, crafts and more. Come and see Fridays and Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Call 283-6958 for more information.

**THE MONSON LIONS CLUB** has a 20-foot x 20-foot tent for rent. The cost is \$75 for a two-day event. The club will put it up and take it down. For more details, contact Curt at 413-668-6653.

**DAY SPRING LODGE A.F. & A.M.** located 14 Bliss St., Monson is making its hall available for rent for \$75 for a variety of parties and functions. For reservations, call Doug Battige at 413-267-5855 or 413-265-9398.

**RESERVE YOUR CELEBRATION TENT** now for your First Communion, bridal and baby showers, graduation parties, family reunions, birthday parties or any other kind of celebration you may have outdoors. The Palmer Lions Club has a tent for you, either 20-feet x 20-feet for \$125 or 20-feet x 40-feet for \$200. This includes setup and takedown in the Palmer area. Call Karen at 413-813-8445 to make a reservation. You may need to leave a message and your call will be returned. The Palmer Lions Club tent rental fees go towards assistance for the people of Palmer, Bonsville, Three Rivers and Thorndike.

**MONSON WOODWACKERS** wood carving club will meet every Thursday at Monson Senior Center on Main Street in Monson from 6-8 p.m. The club meets throughout the year. Membership is \$10 for the year, payable in September. Anyone interested should call Barbara Mackintosh at 413-237-8303. There are many beginner projects and experienced teachers, as well, within the club.

**STAINED GLASS MAKING CLASS** will be held on Thursdays at the Holland Community Center from 10 a.m.-1 p.m. or 6-9 p.m. Glass and tools are supplied. Take six classes for \$48. Class sizes are limited and are open to all ages. For more information call Tom Baltazar at 508-245-2525.

**PALMER SALVATION ARMY** Service Extension Unit offers residents in Palmer and Brimfield emergency assistance on a periodic basis. The outreach coordinator will be located on the second floor of St. Paul's Unitarian Universalist Church at 1060 Central St., Palmer. You must schedule an appointment by calling 413-221-8283 so you know what documentation to bring since those seeking assistance have to meet certain criteria and show proof of need. Please leave your name, number and the date you called. Phone messages are checked weekly, not daily.

**BOOKSTORE** at the Unitarian Universalist Parish of Monson at the corner of Lincoln and Main streets in Monson is open the first Friday of every month from 5:30-7:30 p.m., the third Saturday of every month from 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Books priced from 25 cents to \$1 each: fiction, nonfiction, thrillers, horror, mystery, science fiction, how-to, classic literature, children's books, romances, cookbooks, gardening books and more. All proceeds benefit the parish. Donations are accepted. Call Mary at 267-0033 for more information.

**MARTHA'S TABLE STAFF** at the Monson-Glendale United Methodist Church is supporting the Monson Open Pantry by providing a meal once a month to anyone who will bring a non-perishable food item. Staff have begun packing and delivering the meals in cooperation with the Monson Senior Center. The meal is served at the church, 162 Main St., Monson on the third Saturday of each month from 11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. For more information call 267-3798.

**SENIOR LUNCHEON.** The Monson Council on Aging invites seniors over age 60 to its luncheon program every Monday-Friday at the Monson Senior Center, 106

Main St., Monson. Home cooked meals are always served at noon. The requested donation of \$2.50 includes the entrée, bread, dessert and beverage. Menus are available in the COA newsletter. Luncheon reservations must be made by 2:30 p.m. the day before you would like to come to lunch. For more info or van reservations, call 267-4121.

**GAME NIGHT** will be held at Top Floor Learning at the Palmer Public Library the second Tuesday of each month: Sept. 10, Oct. 8, Nov. 12 and Dec. 10 (2019) and Jan. 14, Feb. 11 and March 10 (2020) from 6-7:45 p.m. There is no fee or registration required, and attendants must be 16 years of age or older unless accompanied by an adult. Games include Scrabble, Cribbage, Monopoly, Rummy, Chess, Checkers, Uno, Yahtzee, Bridge, Skipboo, Crazy 8's, Hearts, Dominos, etc. Attendees may bring their own. For more information call 283-2329 or email palewis19@yahoo.com.

**MAKE A DONATION** to the Monson Free Library in honor of a special person or family member, in the form of a book, DVD or CD, audio book or magazine subscription. The person will receive a letter informing them of your gift. The cost of donations is \$25 for a book, \$20 for a CD or DVD, \$100 for an audio book and \$20 for a magazine subscription. For more information call 267-3866.

## EVENTS

### SATURDAY, FEB. 29

**SOCIAL JUSTICE FILM** The next social justice film, entitled "Crude" will be shown on Feb. 29, at 7 p.m., at the Unitarian Universalist Church at 177 Main St. in Monson at 7 p.m. The film is free and will be followed by refreshments and discussion. Watch this film and see if Chevron should have received a pass on paying income tax and a subsidy as a gift from the taxpayers. For more info call Malita at 413-596-9075.

### SUNDAY, MARCH 1

St. Joseph's Polish Club will hold its annual meeting on March 1st at 1 p.m., 18 Commercial Street in Thorndike. Voting for new officers will begin at noon.

### THURSDAY, MARCH 12

Patrick Duffy, of the Elbow Plantation Historical Society, will give a free talk at the Palmer Public Library on March 12, from 2 to 4 p.m. in the community room about the Falls of Wallamanumps. He will talk about the natural bridge and red sandstone, which once spanned the Chicopee River between Ludlow and Indian Orchard. The Native Americans called the area Wallamanumps Falls. Family memberships to the Elbow Plantation Historical Society are \$10 a year and items of local historic significance are accepted at the society's monthly meeting.

### SATURDAY, MARCH 15

**CORNED BEEF AND CABBAGE DINNER** will be sponsored by the Sons of AMVETS Squadron 74, 2015 Main St., Three Rivers on Sunday, March 15, noon to 4 p.m. There will be live Irish music by the band Malarkey from 1 to 3 p.m. Tickets are \$12 and are available at the post.

## ONGOING

**CAREGIVERS SUPPORT GROUP** Please join us at 6 p.m. every first Thursday of the month at Palmer Healthcare Center, 250 Shearer St. Palmer. Light refreshments will be served. Contact Kate Martin at 413-283-8361 for more information.

**CHRISTIANITY EXPLORED** - Who is Jesus? What did he achieve? How should we respond? "Christianity Explored" is a study which seeks to answer these questions from the Gospel of Mark. The course involves seven weekly one-hour sessions using Bible study, related DVD viewing, and discussion of the pertinent passages. For more information contact Mal at 413-267-5025.

**WEEKLY ACTIVITIES** at the Brimfield Senior Center, located in the First Congregational Church, 20 Main St., Brimfield include strength training classes on Mondays and Thursdays from 9-10 a.m.;

Tai Chi on Tuesdays and Fridays from 9-10 a.m.; gentle arthritis and chair yoga combo classes on Tuesdays at 10 a.m.; bingo on the second and fourth Wednesday of the monthly (\$1 per card, 25 cents per game, cover-all price \$10); There is a suggested donation of \$2 for 55 and up and \$3 for under 55. Lunch is served on Tuesdays and Thursdays, with reservations required by 11 a.m. on the previous day. There is a \$2 suggested donation. Planning, crocheting and knitting is offered the first Friday of each month and massage with Vicki is offered the third Tuesday of the month from 9:15-11:15 a.m., by appointment only. The cost is \$5 for 10 minutes and \$15 for 20 minutes. For more information call 413-668-7284 or wallacee413@gmail.com.

**GAME NIGHT** will be held at Top Floor Learning at the Palmer Public Library the second Tuesday of each month: Sept. 10, Oct. 8, Nov. 12 and Dec. 10 (2019) and Jan. 14, Feb. 11 and March 10 (2020) from 6-7:45 p.m. There is no fee or registration required, and attendants must be 16 years of age or older unless accompanied by an adult. Games include Scrabble, Cribbage, Monopoly, Rummy, Chess, Checkers, Uno, Yahtzee, Bridge, Skipboo, Crazy 8's, Hearts, Dominos, etc. Attendees may bring their own. For more information call 283-2329 or email palewis19@yahoo.com.

**KEEP HOMESTEAD MUSEUM** is closed for winter and will re-open on April 5, 2020 at 35 Ely Rd., Monson. Nature trails are open daily for hiking, snowshoeing and cross-country skiing. New trail maps can be found in the parking lot. The Phillips Sculpture Garden is open year-round (handouts in box on one of the sign posts) For more information call 413-267-4137, email khm@keephomesteadmuseum.org or visit www.keephomesteadmuseum.org

**BAYSTATE WING AUXILIARY GIFT SHOP** sells unique merchandise at reasonable prices. Gift shop hours are Monday through Friday, 9:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. with some weekend hours extended during the holidays. All proceeds benefit the Baystate Wing Hospital, a major part of the community, and provide scholarships to seniors graduating from local high schools. Call 413-370-8169 for more information.

**MONSON DEMOCRATS WANTED** by the Monson Democratic Town Committee that holds meetings on the fourth Thursday of each month at the Polish American Citizens Club, 7 Bliss St., Monson at 7 p.m.

**HAVE YOU HAD A BABY RECENTLY?** If you are living in the Palmer, Monson or surrounding communities and you have a newborn baby, call the Palmer Monson Family Network at 283-6246 to get your free canvas bag packing with information for you and practical goodies for your baby. The Family Network, a Collaborative for Educational Services program, is funded by a grant from the Massachusetts Department of Early Education and Care.

**PLAY & LEARN DROP-IN TIME** is happening throughout the school year at the Palmer Monson Family Network on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays from 10-11:30am. The free playgroup includes free play time, snack and circle time and is open to all families and caregivers and their children from 0-5 years old. All PMFN programs are free. The PMFN is located at 4 Springfield St. in Three Rivers and is a program of the Collaborative of Educational Services and receives funding from the Mass. Department of Early Education and Care. For more information call 283-6246.

**INFANT AND TODDLER TIME** at the Palmer Monson Family Network is available for families with little ones from 0-24 months of age. The free program happens throughout the school year on Wednesdays from 9-10:30 a.m. and provides a fun environment for families and caregivers to connect with others with young children. Snack and circle time are included. Call 283-6246 for more information.

**HOLLAND COMMUNITY CENTER**, 40 Brimfield Holland, has announced the following recurring events: Stay Fit classes with Sharon on Mondays at 9:30 a.m., Dance Fit with Alice on Tuesdays at 6 p.m., Low Impact Workout with Debbie Sichol on Wednesdays at 10 a.m., Yoga with Sharon on Wednesdays at 5 p.m. and Tai Chi with David Masera every other Thursday at 10 a.m. For more information call 413-245-3163.

**STORYTELLING WITH COLLEEN LOWE-SMITH** at the Brimfield Senior Center, located in the First Congregational Church, 20 Main St., Brimfield, Mondays at 10:30 a.m. In this group, participants will reflect together on life experiences and practice the art of listening as well as telling. Celebrate one another's unique stories, inspire one another, create empathy, discover wisdom, and provoke one another to reflect more deeply on one's own experiences. Participants are welcome to just listen or to tell a story. There is no cost for this program. Call 413-245-7253 for further information.

**FRIDAY ZUMBA CLASSES** are offered at the Palmer Senior Center, 1029 Central St., Palmer, on Fridays at 9:30 a.m. Zumba Fitness is a Latin-inspired cardio-dance workout that uses music and choreographed steps to form a fitness party atmosphere. People of all ages, shapes and sizes are welcome. Erin Wallace, certified Zumba Fitness instructor, gauges abilities and makes sure everyone exercises safely. The fee is \$30 for five classes or \$8 for drop-ins. For more information, contact Wallace at 413-668-7284 or wallacee413@gmail.com.

**NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS** is a nonprofit fellowship or society of men and women for whom drugs had become a ma-

jor problem. The group is comprised of recovering addicts who meet regularly to help each other stay clean. Local meetings are held every Sunday at 6:30 p.m. at The Living Room of Trinity Episcopal Church, 17 Park St., Ware; every Monday at 7 p.m. at St. Patrick's Church, 22 Green St., Monson; Tuesday at 7:30 p.m. at the Belchertown United Congregational Church, 18 Park St., Belchertown; every Thursday at 7:30 p.m. and the Palmer Historical & Cultural Center, 2072 Main St., Three Rivers; and every Saturday at 7 p.m. at the Second Congregational Church, 1080 Pleasant St., Palmer. For more information or to find additional meetings throughout the New England area, visit [www.nerna.org](http://www.nerna.org).

**KIDS' CHESS CLUB** is hosted at the Palmer Public Library, 1455 North Main St., Palmer on Tuesday afternoons in the community room from 4-5 p.m. All ages are welcome, including kindergarten through grade 12, families and adults. There is no need to sign-up. For more information contact William Nolte at 413-596-9021.

**DIAMOND NATIONAL/CASCADES DIAMOND**. Did you ever work there? Former employees meet on the third Tuesday of every month at Burgundy Brook Restaurant on Route 181 in Palmer from 9-10 a.m. The stories shared are often colorful but old friendships are renewed.

**TICK TALK** - A Lyme disease support group of Monson will meet at Grace Community Church at the Norcross House, 125 Main St., Monson the last Saturday of every month from 10 a.m.-noon. The group can be found online at [facebook.com/monsonlymesupport.com](http://facebook.com/monsonlymesupport.com). **FREE PLAYGROUP** sponsored by Union 61 Family Foundation Five Grant at Hitchcock Free Academy in Brimfield. Music and Movement on Wednesday, 9:45 a.m. and Playgroup on Monday and Thursday 9-11 a.m. For more information, visit [www.hitchcockacademy.org](http://www.hitchcockacademy.org) or call 413-245-9977.

**A NEW, ONGOING ACA** (Adult Children of Alcoholic/Dysfunctional Families) will be held on Friday nights at the First Church of Monson, 5 High St., Monson. ACA is a 12-step support group for adults raised in an alcoholic or otherwise dysfunctional family. "Another Way to Live" will meet at 6:30 p.m. Voluntary donations only. **WEEKLY CLASSES** at Holland Community Center, 40 Brimfield Road, Holland. Mondays and Wednesdays lunch is served at noon, reservations required by calling 413-245-3163 and a \$2 donation is requested. Mondays at 10 a.m. is yoga class with Mah Jongg, and Monday evenings at 6 p.m. is Texas Hold 'Em. Tuesdays at 10 a.m. is the Coffee Social which is open to everyone, and Open Crafts are held on Tuesdays, 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Zumba is held on Wednesdays at 10 a.m., Mah Jongg is at 1 p.m. and Yoga is at 5 p.m., plus Pitch at 6:30 p.m. Stained glass is every Thursday from 10 a.m.-1 p.m. and 6-9 p.m. and Cribbage is weekly on Thursdays at 12:15 p.m. Walking Club is on Thursdays at 4 p.m. The Billiard Room is open Monday through Thursday from 10 a.m.-3 p.m. and 6-9 p.m. For everyone. For more information, call 413-245-9977.

**MONTHLY CLASSES** at Holland Community Center, 40 Brimfield Road, Holland. Cards Against Humanity on the third Tuesday of the month at 7 p.m. and Magic the Gathering on the fourth Tuesday of the month at 6 p.m. Everyone is welcome. For more information call 413-245-3163.

**CARD AND/OR BOARD GAMES** will be offered at the Brimfield Senior Center, located in the First Congregational Church, 20 Main St., Brimfield, on the first and third Wednesdays of each month from 10:30 a.m.-noon. Light snacks and beverages will be provided. A \$1 donation is suggested. For more information call 413-245-7253.

**MONDAY ZUMBA CLASSES** are offered at Memorial Town Hall, 198 Main St., Monson, on Mondays at 8:30 a.m., sponsored by the Monson Parks and Recreation Department. Zumba Fitness is a Latin-inspired cardio-dance workout that uses music and choreographed steps to form a fitness party atmosphere. People of all ages, shapes and sizes are welcome. Erin Wallace, certified Zumba Fitness instructor, gauges abilities and makes sure everyone exercises safely. The fee is \$30 for five classes or \$8 for drop-ins. For more information, contact Wallace at 413-668-7284 or wallacee413@gmail.com.

**QUILTERS OF MONSON** meet every Tuesday, 1-4 p.m. at Columbia Hall, across from St. Patrick's Church in Monson at 22 Green St. Experienced and beginner quilters get together to work on projects, exchange ideas, provide help and encouragement in a friendly and fun atmosphere. For more information call Wendy Skillman at 413-355-0305 or email [WendySkillman@hotmail.com](mailto:WendySkillman@hotmail.com) or go to 'Monson Quilts' on Facebook.

**STAINED GLASS CLASSES** at the Holland Senior Center are on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 10:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. and 6:30 to 9 p.m. Tai Chi (Qui Chong) with Dave Masera has moved to Monday mornings at 9:00 a.m. Power Yoga on Thursday nights has ended and will resume in the Fall. Movie Night has also returned to the center and will commence on Thursdays in May. For more information contact the center at 413-245-3163.

**ELBOW PLANTATION HISTORICAL SOCIETY** meets the second Thursday of every month (except July, August, January and February) in the community room of the Palmer Public Library, 1455 North Main St., Palmer from 7:30 p.m. and the Palmer Historical & Cultural Center, 2072 Main St., Three Rivers; and every Saturday at 7 p.m. at the Second Congregational Church, 1080 Pleasant St., Palmer. For more information or to find additional meetings throughout the New England area, visit [www.nerna.org](http://www.nerna.org).

**FREE MUSIC AND MOVEMENT CLASS** at Hitchcock Free Academy in Brimfield. All ages are welcome in this free program sponsored by Union 61 Family Foundation 5, held on Wednesdays, 9:45 a.m.; no programs during school vacations or holidays. Listen and move to music and create some of your own. The instructor is Jenn Gagnon. For more information, call Patti Sisko at 508-867-2232 or email [sinkop@tantaqua.org](mailto:sinkop@tantaqua.org).

**NEW MUSEUM PASSES** are available at the Monson Free Library, 2 High St., Monson. The Friends of the Monson Free Library have renewed the list of museum passes which include free or discounted admission to area attractions like the Connecticut Science Museum, MassMOCA, New England Air Museum, Worcester Art Museum and the Wadsworth Atheneum. Old favorites that are still available include the Eric Carle Museum, Massachusetts state parks, Mystic Aquarium, Smith College Museum of Art, Springfield Museums and the USS Constitution.

**PRE-SCHOOL STORY TIME** will be held at the Monson Free Library, 2 High St., every Wednesday morning at 10:30 a.m. Join the group for stories, crafts and silliness. No registration is needed and all are welcome.

**BOUNCE AND RHYME BABY TIME** will be held at the Monson Free Library, 2 High St., every Friday morning at 10:30 a.m. Stories, songs and rhymes for children up to 2 1/2. No registration is required and all are welcome.

